ISE MEAT CHOPPERS,
IN THE WORLD.
TO CHOP, NOT GRIND THE MEAT.

No. 10 Chops 1 pound per minute. Price, $5.50.
12 Chops 1 pound per minute. Price, $6.50.
22 Chops 2 pounds per minute Price, $8.00.
32 Chops 3 pounds per minute Price, $9.00.

American Agriculturist says: "We have given this Meat Chopper a thorough trial with most satisfactory results. They excel anything of the kind made in either hemisphere."

No. 10 Family Size, Price, $3.00.

SOLD BY THE Hardware Trade

M'F'G CO., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

US
ths of a bottle if turn the bottle and the money
cents.
GH
URE
., Proprietors,
AINE.
Dealers.

Best"
P
ERS
mulate the tired trengthen weak inimal virtues of Beneficially Dyspepsia, Bolls, Blotches, Sloo- Cleanse the Blood, ed to Backache, Chest or any of ases so common, Dyspepsia and nal doing. Sold ggists, Boston, Mass.

ful
ENER

AMLIN

S.
94 Exhibitions for Forgings, Easy pp., 40c free.

ing, introduced and conceded by com- and advance in Prices.
ch tuning as Pianos mail.

ANO CO.
ah Ave., Chicago, ll, N. Y.

BLE
RTES.
O IN
and Durability.
E & CO.
ce Street, Baltimore

STEAM
Job Printing.
The Proprietors of the
MAINE FARMER
—HAVE—
Refitted in a Thorough Manner
—THEIR—
Steam Job Printing Office.
And having secured the services of first-class Job Printers, under the charge of an Experienced Foreman,
They are now Prepared to Execute
with Neatness and Despatch,
Every Variety of
NEWSPAPER, BOOK,
—AND—
General Job Printing.
PAMPHLETS,
TOWN REPORTS,
TOWN ORDERS,
HANDBILLS,
CATALOGUES,
CIRCULARS,
PROGRAMMES,
BRIEFS, ETC.
Printed with Care and Accuracy.
PRICES REDUCED!
Orders by Mail Promptly Attended to.
BADGER & MANLEY,
Williams Block, Water St., two Doors South of Kennebec Bridge.

RY YARDS
ROCKS.
CKS.
arly chicks to

g birds for anoth

o those purchasers.

ABLE.
CHELL,
MAINE
TRY YARD.
KENT,
Brahmas and Fowl, also Scotch

Village, Maine.
nnah chicks now at Eastern Maine ber, 1885 and is 6. Rocks, Buff Cochins, Silkies, Sliding Chest or any of ases so common, Dyspepsia and nal doing. Sold ggists, Boston, Mass.

ful
ENER

AMLIN

S.
94 Exhibitions for Forgings, Easy pp., 40c free.

ing, introduced and conceded by com- and advance in Prices.
ch tuning as Pianos mail.

ANO CO.
ah Ave., Chicago, ll, N. Y.

BLE
RTES.
O IN
and Durability.
E & CO.
ce Street, Baltimore

STEAM
Job Printing.
The Proprietors of the
MAINE FARMER
—HAVE—
Refitted in a Thorough Manner
—THEIR—
Steam Job Printing Office.
And having secured the services of first-class Job Printers, under the charge of an Experienced Foreman,
They are now Prepared to Execute
with Neatness and Despatch,
Every Variety of
NEWSPAPER, BOOK,
—AND—
General Job Printing.
PAMPHLETS,
TOWN REPORTS,
TOWN ORDERS,
HANDBILLS,
CATALOGUES,
CIRCULARS,
PROGRAMMES,
BRIEFS, ETC.
Printed with Care and Accuracy.
PRICES REDUCED!
Orders by Mail Promptly Attended to.
BADGER & MANLEY,
Williams Block, Water St., two Doors South of Kennebec Bridge.

Maine Farmer.

Officers Maine State Grange.

Master—FREDERICK ROBIE.....Gorham
Overseer—E. H. GREGORY.....West Mt. Vernon
Lecturer—D. H. TRING.....Topsham
Steward—T. B. SPRAGUE.....Hampden
Assistant Steward—A. H. WHITMORE....Bucksport
Chaplain—O. J. HANCOCK.....Skowhegan
Treasurer—S. S. SMITH.....Norway
Secretary—FRED A. ALLEN.....East Auburn
Gate Keeper—G. M. DOUGLASS.....Cornish
Ceres—Mrs. FREDERICK ROBIE.....Gorham
Pomona—Mrs. D. M. HALL.....Bangor
Flora—Mrs. E. H. GREGORY.....Hampden Corner
L. A. Steward—Mrs. A. H. WHITMORE....Bucksport

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

J. W. LANG.....Bowdoinham
NELSON HAM.....Lewiston
W. H. GINN.....Prospect Ferry
S. H. HIGGINS.....Orrington

In Flanders the urine of cattle is saved separately from the solid excrement, and is sold to gardeners at the rate of $10 per cow for a year.

The order of the Patrons of Husbandry is one of the leading agencies in the education of the farmer, and is rapidly developing a more perfect system, looking to the cultivation of the heart, the intellect, the social relations, and a purer and nobler citizenship.

A creamery is being established in the town of Acton, York county, on the co-operative plan. Mr. John Lord is president of the association. A full outfit of first-class equipments has been supplied to the factory, and over two hundred cows have been pledged to its support.

The agricultural products of Germany, exclusive of wheat, amount to two-thirds as much as those of the United States, and yet we have single States whose area exceeds that of the German Empire. If this speaks well for the thoroughness of German farming, it is not flattering to the skill of the average American agriculturist.

Great alarm is felt among the marketmen in the Atlantic cities on account of the great cattle blockade in Texas. There are 1000 carloads of beef cattle between Fort Worth and Toyah awaiting shipment, with no cars to transport them. At Colorado City there are 600 carloads, and at other points fully 500 carloads. All the leading railroad lines seem to be short of cars, and the fine beeves in order for shipment are loosing weight daily by the delay.

Secretary B. D. Gilbert of the Utica Board of Trade, gives the total number of boxes of cheese sold during 1886 at Utica as 325,962; number of pounds per box, sixty; number of pounds sold 19,557,720; average price per pound, 40.0949; value of season's cheese, 81,773,885. This is about 5000 boxes more than were sold in 1885, and about 10,000 boxes higher than the sales of 1884. The average price for 1886 is about one cent higher than for 1885, and one cent lower than for 1884.

A Farmers' Institute has been arranged to be held with the Penobscot County Farmers' Club, at Hampden, Jan. 12. Hon. Edmund Hersey, of Hingham, Mass., has been secured to give a lecture on the potato and its cultivation. Mr. Hingham has given much study to this subject in the last ten years, and has twice lectured before the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, at its winter meetings, with much acceptance. He is a farmer, and is also well known as one of the leading agricultural writers of New England. A full programme of the Institute will be given later.

The first case of pleuro-pneumonia was imported into America in 1843. That primal cause of all this kine misery was an English cow landed at New York harbor, and stabled hard by South Ferry. From there the disease spread eastward to the stables of Brooklyn, Jamaica, Roslyn, Cutchogue and other places along Long Island sound; also to the stables in New Jersey, Jersey and northward into Westchester county. For more than forty years there have been infected "herds" in the near vicinity of New York city. A few years ago the disease penetrated Massachusetts, and it took that State about six years to stamp it out, at the expense of a thousand cattle.

W. I. Chamberlain said in his address before the Ohio Horticultural Society last winter, that success in orcharding required personal attention on the part of the owner. He had on his farm about fifteen acres of young apple orchard, every tree set by his own hand and pruned by it ever since, and "it had just come into splendid bearing." He was not a pomologist, and could not name at sight more than thirty of the 300 varieties, and of these thirty there were three that yielded on his farm more than all the rest, and one of the three more than the other two, or indeed than any other twenty-nine, and it would to-day $1,000 in his pocket if every tree in the orchard were *Baldwin*. (This orchard is in northern Ohio.)

The State Grange.

The session of the State Grange held last week, a report of which so far as proper to be made public was given in our last week's issue, and will be found continued in this number, was an occasion of marked importance. The meeting was made up of the solid, substantial farmers of the State, many of them to whom the people have from time to time been pleased to consign important and responsible duties. These men assembled with the purpose in hand of considering matters bearing especially upon the interests of agriculture, and of deliberating upon means and methods through which these interests could be best promoted. Their deliberations were characterized by strict attention to business, and by that broad intelligence which men of this class are everywhere known to possess. As a deliberative body is may be accorded much credit.

The influence of this work annually repested and transferred to the subordinate organizations throughout the State and country cannot be overestimated. That it must be an influence for the upbuilding of agricultural interests, and for the elevation of those engaged in farming cannot be questioned, and is fast becoming to be recognized by all classes.

Keeping Posted.

It is a poor manager indeed who cannot flourish after some manner in flush and prosperous times. Every middle aged farmer has passed through periods when produce yielded him a handsome profit, even though he might not have looked very critically after the matter of getting market prices. That is to say, there are occasionally times when one's grain, produce, live stock, etc., may be depended upon to "pay," almost by sheer force of circumstances. If there ever is a time when one can afford to neglect the matter of keeping thoroughly posted, it is when everything is thus on the "boom;" although the observation of the most careless will show that those who read and study and are continuously well informed of every change in prices, and every new influence bearing upon their business, are to carry into it information into the daily management of their affairs, are the men who realize double from the good times what the average of their more careless fellows can get out of them. It cannot be disputed that fresh commercial and statistical knowledge is money under circumstances of this kind.

But what shall we say of periods of depression, when the greater part of our farm products sell below their intrinsic worth—when it is a constant struggle to make both ends meet, and agriculture lives more nearly on a hand-to-mouth plan than at other times? Can any one afford to shut his eyes to what is going on around him at such times as these? This question answers itself. Accurate current information is at other times an advantage—in depression it is a necessity. In such years as the last few have been, the producer must get all the income there is in his business if he would maintain his business standing. There is but one way to get all one's produce is worth, and that is to know what it is worth. The great bulk of agricultural people are now perhaps about "holding their own," while a great many are getting behind. At the same time there are still others who in all these years of depression are adding something to their accumulations. In the first two classes there are many well posted men—for keeping posted, however much it may assist, will not in itself make a man get ahead; but it is safe to say that in the last named class there is a better average possession of constant commercial knowledge, and a better application of an intimate acquaintance with figures than exists in either of the others. Use your eyes for the proof of this claim.—*Stockman.*

BADGER & MANLEY, Publishers and Proprietors. "OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN." TERMS: Two Dollars per annum, in Advance.

VOL. LV. AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1886. No. 7.

THE STATE GRANGE.

FULL REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

RESOLUTIONS AND CLOSING PROCEEDINGS.

We continue from last week, our report of the proceedings of the State Grange, the sessions of which closed in this city last Thursday:

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

The first business of the session was the election of two of the executive committee, whose term of office had expired. The result was that S. H. Higgins of Orrington, was elected in place of T. B. Hunter, and J. W. Lang was reëlected. This step proved the wisdom of the State Grange, for no man has done more faithful work for the progression of the order than he, and the friends of the Granges rejoice that Mr. Lang's services are retained for another term. Through the columns of the *Farmer* he has reached thousands outside the order, and impressed upon them the work we are doing, and the result is that a renewed interest is manifested all along the line.

A long discussion took place over the report of the Committee on Education, which was reported by Bro. O. J. Hancock, and it was finally recommitted with instructions.

The committee on constitution and by-laws presented their report which was quite extensive, several changes being suggested, all of them adopted by the Grange. These additions and changes add to also a defensive weapon, the synonym of strength and power, which carries terror to all opposing forces. We may use it, and should use it in the good work in which we engage at our Grange homes, to educate ourselves and our children in the peaceful pursuit of agriculture. We should use it for the protection of ourselves and our business, and to resist the encroachments of monopolies. By co-operation the farmers may secure to themselves and their interests all the advantages, secured to other classes, by representation in the counsels of the State and Nation, and by united them fight on equal vantage ground with the other great industrial classes of the people. Actual cooperation becomes the strongest of agencies to be handed the masses; let us employ it fairly and honestly.

During a short intermission Sister R. W. Thompson of Jay, a young lady of perhaps fourteen years, was introduced by the Worthy Master, and read a very touching well written original poem, indicating more than ordinary talent for one so young. Sister J. O. Keyes of Wilton, then stepped to the front of the stage, and in a pleasing manner, in the following words presented the Worthy Master of the National Grange, with a beautiful silver service from the State Grange:

Worthy Brother: We have been pleased to greet you, and believe your coming to us will result in much good to the order after listening to your wise counsels to be better prepared to overcome difficulties and surmount obstacles, and we hope it may not prove entirely a lost opportunity, and trust that you, also, may reap some good. As a testimonial of our esteem and appreciation of your efforts, in behalf of the brothers and sisters of the Maine State Grange I present and ask you to accept this small token of our interest and esteem, and when you look upon or use it, wherever you may chance to be, may it speak to you the kind wishes with which it has been emblazoned and dedicated to you. May the presence and the guiding hand of Him on whom alone it is wise and safe to rely, ever be with and around you, to protect and bless, and in good time to bring you here again. With these, our united wishes and prayers, we bid you God speed.

Bro. Whitehead was taken entirely by surprise, and was unable to make any response save to express his thanks, and to send his good wishes to the brothers and sisters of Maine.

The discussions were allowed to drag along and no attempt was made to check the tendency to ramble, for some of the others' valuable time was worse than wasted and no one was benefitted.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

REPORT ON CO-OPERATION.

The committee on coöperation presented a report covering but a part of the ground, but containing suggestions which cannot be successfully carried, out though the report, received the vote of the Grange.

The report of committee on Grange festivals was presented, urging the value of these gatherings, and recommending that they be more extensively held, as a means of cultivating the fraternal ties, and inculcating the principles of the Grange. A lengthy report of the committee on commercial relations was presented and adopted; the report being as follows:

Your Committee on Transportation and Commercial Relations submit the following:

The subject of inter-State commerce is one involving immense interests to the legitimate business, and especially to all branches of productive industry.

When we reflect upon the fact that it costs more to transport the produce of the West to tide water than the sum received for it, we get an idea of the vast interests involved. When a train load of flour, corn or beef gets to market, then is its market value added to the wealth of the country, but it all goes not to the millionaires and monopolists of the country whether that wealth has been produced at a profit or at a loss to the producer. It must go over the road and to the hands of the railroad men with the canal frozen up half the year, and with the vast railroad monopoly in the pooling system, there is practically but one road from the West to the Atlantic, and the producer is obliged to submit to oppressions, extortions, and even downright robbery until the profits of farming create fortunes of two hundred millions of dollars, while the centers of the same millions barely keep the wolf from the door.

Where shall these things end? What must be the inevitable result if matters are allowed to go on as they are going? The National Grange sounded the key note seven years ago when it demanded that the whole question of inter-state commerce be placed in the hands of a board of commissioners, and that each railroad in the United States be compelled to treat each of its patrons alike. We ask no favors, we demand no special privileges, we desire no class legislation for ourselves, and we most earnestly protest against it for others. The order are already endorsed by the highest legal tribunal in our country. Now we demand of Congress such legislation as will give us our rights. We ask nothing more. We propose to be satisfied with nothing less.

The idea of national legislation for the regulation of inter-state commerce was born in the Grange. To the Grange it still has been borne by and at the expense of the order. While but a meager minority in all, and while we have had next to no outside help, yet for six years we have persistently fought for the rights of all our toiling people. Our legitimate work as an order is to build up and sustain an intelligent and productive agriculture, and make the business of tilling the soil a paying one to those who do it. To do that it becomes necessary to fight monopoly in every form. Therefore, Resolved, That it is the duty of Congress to provide legislation whereby all common carriers shall be compelled to carry all passengers by the mile and all freight by the ton and mile, and by which all persons and corporations doing business through them shall be treated equally alike. That pooling shall be prohibited, and that stock watering shall be treated as a felony, with such penalties affixed that no corporation can afford to violate the law. Also that the penalty for rebates of any portion of freight bills be the forfeiture of the charter of any railroad or other common carrier so violating the laws.

The Executive Committee was instructed to print and distribute as many copies of constitution and by-laws as in their wisdom may be necessary. All through the day valuable time was lost by useless discussion and important measures hastily acted upon. The report on dormant Granges covered important features, and urged action that if carried out would promote the growth and interest of the order.

REPORT ON DORMANT GRANGES.

Worthy Master and Patrons: It is a mortifying fact that while as a whole Maine stands at the head of the list in regard to good, sound, useful, healthy State, county and subordinate Grange work, in some of the same time a few dead or dormant Granges, and also several weak Granges—Granges low in zeal, low in interest, low in numbers; and the question is, How can their condition be bettered, how can their zeal be renewed, their interest awakened and new life put into them? It would seem that after an association of enlightened men and women had been initiated into the four degrees of our order, studied the teachings of our ritual and become acquainted with our declaration of principles, nothing could estrange them from each other or abate their interest, as it is of necessity a life work.

But we find poor weak human nature will assert itself inside of our gates sometimes as strongly as outside. The most frequent cause of this indifference is traceable to a violation of some fundamental law of either the State Grange which they have sworn to obey, or the neglect of their officers to enforce strictly their own by-laws. No Grange becomes dormant all at once. There is always a gradual progress—they begin with slight departures from rectitude—they do not intend to commit suicide by proceeding beyond a point of safety. Some penurious member will suggest that the initiation fees are too high (forgetting that he has taken a solemn oath to abide by the laws of the State and National Grange) and suggests that a smaller sum will suit people better, and be the means of building up the order and increasing its membership to fabulous numbers, and his specious delusion a majority to believe that he is right, and it is voted to do so. Next the dues are reduced from 30 to 15 cents per quarter. Visit such a Grange, and you will find them slack and demoralized.

These experiments usually turn out about the same as the wealthy planter's did when he undertook to furnish the gospel without money. A wealthy planter—a man of education, an eloquent speaker, was converted. He wanted to do good. His neighbors were irreligious and he felt that his first duty was to them. He built a church, put an able man in it as organist. He obtained a license, prepared some excellent sermons, sent his servants all over the neighborhood and invited everybody to come to church next Sunday. The people came and filled them to overflowing—all coming and invited them to come again. On Saturday he sent his servants out to remind them of the Sabbath service. He did this year after year, paying all expenses himself, and rapidly became a nuisance to people that the gospel was free "without money and without price." "And what was the result?" was asked. "Oh, he preached twenty years and there wasn't a single conversion in all that time!" People are not likely to prize very highly that which costs them nothing. No man, as far as known, has ever entered heaven on a free pass.

Every successful Grange trains its members to work and to give. Your committee would recommend that the Deputies be instructed to visit all known dormant Granges in their respective districts, and those who have given up their charters, and use every means in their power to induce them to come back into the fold. It is not generally known that such Granges have the right to return without paying past dues, or being to any expense whatever. They are also of the decided opinion that the question as to the practice of subordinate Granges fixing the amount of their admission fees and quarterly dues should be definitely settled. That instances of this practice are becoming too common, is no secret. The proper authorities should be called upon it, or at once use its power to prevent it.

There are in some instances old family feuds carried into the Grange, and allowed to govern members' actions in direct violation of principles and obligations. Communities may be sent to labor with them, but they find the old scars too deep to be obliterated this side of the grave. In such a case we would recommend a suspension of the charter at once, and if it should afterwards appear that there were enough who could agree to accept a new charter and commence anew, their request should be granted.

There are instances where the management of the finances caused coldness among members, and the Grange eventually became dormant—bills were paid without going through the proper channels. These matters should be conducted upon strict business principles.

Again, trouble is caused by some members who are constantly, in season and out of season, trying, indirectly, to force their peculiar religious or political notions upon the Grange. This leads invariably to coldness and death. Consistency with our obligations, our purposes and principles, our desires to advance the welfare of the order and elevate the character of our members, all demand the laying aside of party and sectarial feelings. An ounce of lengthy report of the committee on commercial relations was presented and adopted; the report being as follows:

Your Committee on Transportation and Commercial Relations submit the following:

The subject of inter-State commerce is one involving immense interests to the legitimate business, and especially to all branches of productive industry.

When we reflect upon the fact that it costs more to transport the produce of the West to tide water than the sum received for it, we get an idea of the vast interests involved. When a train load of flour, corn or beef gets to market, then is its market value added to the wealth of the country, but it all goes not to the millionaires and monopolists of the country whether that wealth has been produced at a profit or at a loss to the producer. It must go over the road and to the hands of the railroad men with the canal frozen up half the year, and with the vast railroad monopoly in the pooling system, there is practically but one road from the West to the Atlantic, and the producer is obliged to submit to oppressions, extortions, and even downright robbery until the profits of farming create fortunes of two hundred millions of dollars, while the centers of the same millions barely keep the wolf from the door.

Where shall these things end? What must be the inevitable result if matters are allowed to go on as they are going? The National Grange sounded the key note seven years ago when it demanded that the whole question of inter-state commerce be placed in the hands of a board of commissioners, and that each railroad in the United States be compelled to treat each of its patrons alike. We ask no favors, we demand no special privileges, we desire no class legislation for ourselves, and we most earnestly protest against it for others. The order are already endorsed by the highest legal tribunal in our country. Now we demand of Congress such legislation as will give us our rights. We ask nothing more. We propose to be satisfied with nothing less.

The idea of national legislation for the regulation of inter-state commerce was born in the Grange. To the Grange it still has been borne by and at the expense of the order. While but a meager minority in all, and while we have had next to no outside help, yet for six years we have persistently fought for the rigets of all our toiling people. Our legitimate work as an order is to build up and sustain an intelligent and productive agriculture, and make the business of tilling the soil a paying one to those who do it. To do that it becomes necessary to fight monopoly in every form. Therefore, Resolved, That it is the duty of Congress to provide legislation whereby all common carriers shall be compelled to carry all passengers by the mile and all freight by the ton and mile, and by which all persons and corporations doing business through them shall be treated equally alike. That pooling shall be prohibited, and that stock watering shall be treated as a felony, with such penalties affixed that no corporation can afford to violate the law. Also that the penalty for rebates of any portion of freight bills be the forfeiture of the charter of any railroad or other common carrier so violating the laws.

The Executive Committee was instructed to print and distribute as many copies of constitution and by-laws as in their wisdom may be necessary. All through the day valuable time was lost by useless discussion and important measures hastily acted upon. The report on dormant Granges covered important features, and urged action that if carried out would promote the growth and interest of the order.

REPORT ON DORMANT GRANGES.

Worthy Master and Patrons: It is a mortifying fact that while as a whole Maine stands at the head of the list in regard to good, sound, useful, healthy State, county and subordinate Grange work, in some of the same time a few dead or dormant Granges, and also several weak Granges—Granges low in zeal, low in interest, low in numbers; and the question is, How can their condition be bettered, how can their zeal be renewed, their interest awakened and new life put into them? It would seem that after an association of enlightened men and women had been initiated into the four degrees of our order, studied the teachings of our ritual and become acquainted with our declaration of principles, nothing could estrange them from each other or abate their interest, as it is of necessity a life work.

But we find poor weak human nature will assert itself inside of our gates sometimes as strongly as outside. The most frequent cause of this indifference is traceable to a violation of some fundamental law of either the State Grange which they have sworn to obey, or the neglect of their officers to enforce strictly their own by-laws. No Grange becomes dormant all at once. There is always a gradual progress—they begin with slight departures from rectitude—they do not intend to commit suicide by proceeding beyond a point of safety. Some penurious member will suggest that the initiation fees are too high (forgetting that he has taken a solemn oath to abide by the laws of the State and National Grange) and suggests that a smaller sum will suit people better, and be the means of building up the order and increasing its membership to fabulous numbers, and his specious delusion a majority to believe that he is right, and it is voted to do so. Next the dues are reduced from 30 to 15 cents per quarter. Visit such a Grange, and you will find them slack and demoralized.

These experiments usually turn out about the same as the wealthy planter's did when he undertook to furnish the gospel without money. A wealthy planter—a man of education, an eloquent speaker, was converted. He wanted to do good. His neighbors were irreligious and he felt that his first duty was to them. He built a church, put an able man in it as organist. He obtained a license, prepared some excellent sermons, sent his servants all over the neighborhood and invited everybody to come to church next Sunday. The people came and filled them to overflowing—all coming and invited them to come again. On Saturday he sent his servants out to remind them of the Sabbath service. He did this year after year, paying all expenses himself, and rapidly became a nuisance to people that the gospel was free "without money and without price." "And what was the result?" was asked. "Oh, he preached twenty years and there wasn't a single conversion in all that time!" People are not likely to prize very highly that which costs them nothing. No man, as far as known, has ever entered heaven on a free pass.

Every successful Grange trains its members to work and to give. Your committee would recommend that the Deputies be instructed to visit all known dormant Granges in their respective districts, and those who have given up their charters, and use every means in their power to induce them to come back into the fold. It is not generally known that such Granges have the right to return without paying past dues, or being to any expense whatever. They are also of the decided opinion that the question as to the practice of subordinate Granges fixing the amount of their admission fees and quarterly dues should be definitely settled. That instances of this practice are becoming too common, is no secret. The proper authorities should be called upon it, or at once use its power to prevent it.

There are in some instances old family feuds carried into the Grange, and allowed to govern members' actions in direct violation of principles and obligations. Communities may be sent to labor with them, but they find the old scars too deep to be obliterated this side of the grave. In such a case we would recommend a suspension of the charter at once, and if it should afterwards appear that there were enough who could agree to accept a new charter and commence anew, their request should be granted.

There are instances where the management of the finances caused coldness among members, and the Grange eventually became dormant—bills were paid without going through the proper channels. These matters should be conducted upon strict business principles.

Again, trouble is caused by some members who are constantly, in season and out of season, trying, indirectly, to force their peculiar religious or political notions upon the Grange. This leads invariably to coldness and death. Consistency with our obligations, our purposes and principles, our desires to advance the welfare of the order and elevate the character of our members, all demand the laying aside of party and sectarial feelings. An ounce of prevention is sometimes better than a pound of cure. Quite often the cause of a dormant Grange can be traced to the admission of an improper candidate. The Investigating Committee should be composed of tried and staunch members; it is no place for careless and indifferent persons who are likely to pay more attention to numbers than character. One unworthy member often causes the loss of many worthy members and they also keep out others who are ready to come in. The best authorities affirm that this committee should be governed by a high and pure standard, socially and morally and should investigate thoroughly, and report fearlessly. The candidate must not be lacking in common honesty, to whom you dare not lend money. Persons of a quarrelsome disposition or of virtue, selfish, envious, mean, vindictive persons will not be likely to aid in elevating the character of those engaged in agricultural pursuits—the *great aim* of our order. To follow out this aim is the most stern duty of every subordinate Grange. The Granges who do their work the most faithfully—the nearest to the letter of their constitution and by-laws, are invariably the most prosperous and useful.

All our words and actions should be charitable and humane. In our noble order there is no communism, no agrarianism. We are not opposed to capital more than any other corporation, while they are managed to advance our industrial interests. We make no war upon capital unless it attempts to rob the working classes of their rights. The Grange sounded the key note seven years ago when it demanded that the whole question of inter-state commerce be placed in the hands of a board of commissioners, and that each railroad in the United States be compelled to treat each of its patrons alike. We ask no favors, we demand no special privileges, we desire no class legislation for ourselves, and we most earnestly protest against it for others. The order are already endorsed by the highest legal tribunal in our country. Now we demand of Congress such legislation as will give us our rights. We ask nothing more. We propose to be satisfied with nothing less.

The idea of national legislation for the regulation of inter-state commerce was born in the Grange. To the Grange it still has been borne by and at the expense of the order. While but a meager minority in all, and while we have had next to no outside help, yet for six years we have persistently fought for the rigets of all our toiling people. Our legitimate work as an order is to build up and sustain an intelligent and productive agriculture, and make the business of tilling the soil a paying one to those who do it. To do that it becomes necessary to fight monopoly in every form. Therefore, Resolved, That it is the duty of Congress to provide legislation whereby all common carriers shall be compelled to carry all passengers by the mile and all freight by the ton and mile, and by which all persons and corporations doing business through them shall be treated equally alike. That pooling shall be prohibited, and that stock watering shall be treated as a felony, with such penalties affixed that no corporation can afford to violate the law. Also that the penalty for rebates of any portion of freight bills be the forfeiture of the charter of any railroad or other common carrier so violating the laws.

The Executive Committee was instructed to print and distribute as many copies of constitution and by-laws as in their wisdom may be necessary. All through the day valuable time was lost by useless discussion and important measures hastily acted upon. The report on dormant Granges covered important features, and urged action that if carried out would promote the growth and interest of the order.

REPORT ON DORMANT GRANGES.

Worthy Master and Patrons: It is a mortifying fact that while as a whole Maine stands at the head of the list in regard to good, sound, useful, healthy State, county and subordinate Grange work, in some of the same time a few dead or dormant Granges, and also several weak Granges—Granges low in zeal, low in interest, low in numbers; and the question is, How can their condition be bettered, how can their zeal be renewed, their interest awakened and new life put into them? It would seem that after an association of enlightened men and women had been initiated into the four degrees of our order, studied the teachings of our ritual and become acquainted with our declaration of principles, nothing could estrange them from each other or abate their interest, as it is of necessity a life work.

But we find poor weak human nature will assert itself inside of our gates sometimes as strongly as outside. The most frequent cause of this indifference is traceable to a violation of some fundamental law of either the State Grange which they have sworn to obey, or the neglect of their officers to enforce strictly their own by-laws. No Grange becomes dormant all at once. There is always a gradual progress—they begin with slight departures from rectitude—they do not intend to commit suicide by proceeding beyond a point of safety. Some penurious member will suggest that the initiation fees are too high (forgetting that he has taken a solemn oath to abide by the laws of the State and National Grange) and suggests that a smaller sum will suit people better, and be the means of building up the order and increasing its membership to fabulous numbers, and his specious delusion a majority to believe that he is right, and it is voted to do so. Next the dues are reduced from 30 to 15 cents per quarter. Visit such a Grange, and you will find them slack and demoralized.

These experiments usually turn out about the same as the wealthy planter's did when he undertook to furnish the gospel without money. A wealthy planter—a man of education, an eloquent speaker, was converted. He wanted to do good. His neighbors were irreligious and he felt that his first duty was to them. He built a church, put an able man in it as organist. He obtained a license, prepared some excellent sermons, sent his servants all over the neighborhood and invited everybody to come to church next Sunday. The people came and filled them to overflowing—all coming and invited them to come again. On Saturday he sent his servants out to remind them of the Sabbath service. He did this year after year, paying all expenses himself, and rapidly became a nuisance to people that the gospel was free "without money and without price." "And what was the result?" was asked. "Oh, he preached twenty years and there wasn't a single conversion in all that time!" People are not likely to prize very highly that which costs them nothing. No man, as far as known, has ever entered heaven on a free pass.

Every successful Grange trains its members to work and to give. Your committee would recommend that the Deputies be instructed to visit all known dormant Granges in their respective districts, and those who have given up their charters, and use every means in their power to induce them to come back into the fold. It is not generally known that such Granges have the right to return without paying past dues, or being to any expense whatever. They are also of the decided opinion that the question as to the practice of subordinate Granges fixing the amount of their admission fees and quarterly dues should be definitely settled. That instances of this practice are becoming too common, is no secret. The proper authorities should be called upon it, or at once use its power to prevent it.

There are in some instances old family feuds carried into the Grange, and allowed to govern members' actions in direct violation of principles and obligations. Communities may be sent to labor with them, but they find the old scars too deep to be obliterated this side of the grave. In such a case we would recommend a suspension of the charter at once, and if it should afterwards appear that there were enough who could agree to accept a new charter and commence anew, their request should be granted.

There are instances where the management of the finances caused coldness among members, and the Grange eventually became dormant—bills were paid without going through the proper channels. These matters should be conducted upon strict business principles.

Again, trouble is caused by some members who are constantly, in season and out of season, trying, indirectly, to force their peculiar religious or political notions upon the Grange. This leads invariably to coldness and death. Consistency with our obligations, our purposes and principles, our desires to advance the welfare of the order and elevate the character of our members, all demand the laying aside of party and sectarial feelings. An ounce of prevention is sometimes better than a pound of cure. Quite often the cause of a dormant Grange can be traced to the admission of an improper candidate. The Investigating Committee should be composed of tried and staunch members; it is no place for careless and indifferent persons who are likely to pay more attention to numbers than character. One unworthy member often causes the loss of many worthy members and they also keep out others who are ready to come in. The best authorities affirm that this committee should be governed by a high and pure standard, socially and morally and should investigate thoroughly, and report fearlessly. The candidate must not be lacking in common honesty, to whom you dare not lend money. Persons of a quarrelsome disposition or of virtue, selfish, envious, mean, vindictive persons will not be likely to aid in elevating the character of those engaged in agricultural pursuits—the *great aim* of our order. To follow out this aim is the most stern duty of every subordinate Grange. The Granges who do their work the most faithfully—the nearest to the letter of their constitution and by-laws, are invariably the most prosperous and useful.

All our words and actions should be charitable and humane. In our noble order there is no communism, no agrarianism. We are not opposed to capital more than any other corporation, while they are managed to advance our industrial interests. We make no war upon capital unless it attempts to rob the working classes of their rights. The Grange sounded the key note seven years ago when it demanded that the whole question of inter-state commerce be placed in the hands of a board of commissioners, and that each railroad in the United States be compelled to treat each of its patrons alike. We ask no favors, we demand no special privileges, we desire no class legislation for ourselves, and we most earnestly protest against it for others. The order are already endorsed by the highest legal tribunal in our country. Now we demand of Congress such legislation as will give us our rights. We ask nothing more. We propose to be satisfied with nothing less.

The idea of national legislation for the regulation of inter-state commerce was born in the Grange. To the Grange it still has been borne by and at the expense of the order. While but a meager minority in all, and while we have had next to no outside help, yet for six years we have persistently fought for the rigets of all our toiling people. Our legitimate work as an order is to build up and sustain an intelligent and productive agriculture, and make the business of tilling the soil a paying one to those who do it. To do that it becomes necessary to fight monopoly in every form. Therefore, Resolved, That it is the duty of Congress to provide legislation whereby all common carriers shall be compelled to carry all passengers by the mile and all freight by the ton and mile, and by which all persons and corporations doing business through them shall be treated equally alike. That pooling shall be prohibited, and that stock watering shall be treated as a felony, with such penalties affixed that no corporation can afford to violate the law. Also that the penalty for rebates of any portion of freight bills be the forfeiture of the charter of any railroad or other common carrier so violating the laws.

The Executive Committee was instructed to print and distribute as many copies of constitution and by-laws as in their wisdom may be necessary. All through the day valuable time was lost by useless discussion and important measures hastily acted upon. The report on dormant Granges covered important features, and urged action that if carried out would promote the growth and interest of the order.

REPORT ON DORMANT GRANGES.

Worthy Master and Patrons: It is a mortifying fact that while as a whole Maine stands at the head of the list in regard to good, sound, useful, healthy State, county and subordinate Grange work, in some of the same time a few dead or dormant Granges, and also several weak Granges—Granges low in zeal, low in interest, low in numbers; and the question is, How can their condition be bettered, how can their zeal be renewed, their interest awakened and new life put into them? It would seem that after an association of enlightened men and women had been initiated into the four degrees of our order, studied the teachings of our ritual and become acquainted with our declaration of principles, nothing could estrange them from each other or abate their interest, as it is of necessity a life work.

But we find poor weak human nature will assert itself inside of our gates sometimes as strongly as outside. The most frequent cause of this indifference is traceable to a violation of some fundamental law of either the State Grange which they have sworn to obey, or the neglect of their officers to enforce strictly their own by-laws. No Grange becomes dormant all at once. There is always a gradual progress—they begin with slight departures from rectitude—they do not intend to commit suicide by proceeding beyond a point of safety. Some penurious member will suggest that the initiation fees are too high (forgetting that he has taken a solemn oath to abide by the laws of the State and National Grange) and suggests that a smaller sum will suit people better, and be the means of building up the order and increasing its membership to fabulous numbers, and his specious delusion a majority to believe that he is right, and it is voted to do so. Next the dues are reduced from 30 to 15 cents per quarter. Visit such a Grange, and you will find them slack and demoralized.

These experiments usually turn out about the same as the wealthy planter's did when he undertook to furnish the gospel without money. A wealthy planter—a man of education, an eloquent speaker, was converted. He wanted to do good. His neighbors were irreligious and he felt that his first duty was to them. He built a church, put an able man in it as organist. He obtained a license, prepared some excellent sermons, sent his servants all over the neighborhood and invited everybody to come to church next Sunday. The people came and filled them to overflowing—all coming and invited them to come again. On Saturday he sent his servants out to remind them of the Sabbath service. He did this year after year, paying all expenses himself, and rapidly became a nuisance to people that the gospel was free "without money and without price." "And what was the result?" was asked. "Oh, he preached twenty years and there wasn't a single conversion in all that time!" People are not likely to prize very highly that which costs them nothing. No man, as far as known, has ever entered heaven on a free pass.

Every successful Grange trains its members to work and to give. Your committee would recommend that the Deputies be instructed to visit all known dormant Granges in their respective districts, and those who have given up their charters, and use every means in their power to induce them to come back into the fold. It is not generally known that such Granges have the right to return without paying past dues, or being to any expense whatever. They are also of the decided opinion that the question as to the practice of subordinate Granges fixing the amount of their admission fees and quarterly dues should be definitely settled. That instances of this practice are becoming too common, is no secret. The proper authorities should be called upon it, or at once use its power to prevent it.

There are in some instances old family feuds carried into the Grange, and allowed to govern members' actions in direct violation of principles and obligations. Communities may be sent to labor with them, but they find the old scars too deep to be obliterated this side of the grave. In such a case we would recommend a suspension of the charter at once, and if it should afterwards appear that there were enough who could agree to accept a new charter and commence anew, their request should be granted.

There are instances where the management of the finances caused coldness among members, and the Grange eventually became

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Dec. 30, 1886.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

$2.00 IN ADVANCE; OR $2.50 IF NOT PAID WITHIN ONE YEAR OF DATE OF SUBSCRIPTION.

☞All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the yellow slips attached to their papers. The printed date, in connection with the subscriber's name, will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for money remitted by him.

☞A subscriber desiring to change his post office direction, or to discontinue his paper must communicate to us the *name of the office to which it has previously been sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

☞Postage free to all subscribers.

Collectors' Notices.

J. W. KELLOGG will call upon our subscribers in Aroostook county during January.

C. S. AYER will call upon our subscribers in West Kennebec county during January.

Hon. William Atkinson of Anson, has arrived home from Quebec.

On Wednesday, the national House passed the bill for the sale of the present public building lot at Eastport, and the purchase of a new site and the erection of a new building thereon. Both branches adjourned to Jan. 4th.

There is a shortage of winter apples in all the large cities. This is an unhappy omen for the cities, but a good thing for the farmers of Maine who happen to have a surplus on hand. High prices will be obtained for well kept reds and greenings.

Mr. George S. Rowell of the Portland *Advertiser*, who saved Judge Baker's life on the steamer Sebenoa, last summer, has received from that gentleman a handsome copy of Bryant's Library of Poetry and Song, with this inscription: "George S. Rowell, from H. K. Baker, in remembrance of prompt aid at a time of great danger. 1886."

Washington "society" is agitated from centre to circumference over the mighty and all-absorbing question as to who should rank first in social gatherings, the cabinet or the Senate, and whether the wife of a member of the cabinet or a Senator's wife should make the first call. It is an old-time controversy which has never been settled. It seems to most people to be a matter of no consequence, but questions of great public moment must be laid aside for a while until this mighty social upheaval is quieted.

To the disgust of the consumers, it has been ascertained that several persons in Portland, who keep cows for the purpose of supplying customers with pure milk, are in the habit of buying house offal and garbage, or collecting it from house to house, with which to feed their cows. Most of what they collect or buy is already in the first stages of fermentation, and as it is kept in bins or heaps, fermentation progresses until the mess is fed to the cows. Of course milk produced from such food can but be injurious to the health of those who use it, and serious results may follow its use, especially where given to young children.

"Our George," of Belfast, who is to be the poet at the coming meeting of the Maine Press Association, was written to, asking if he had prepared his "poem," to which he responded in the following characteristic manner:

Dear ——: I can reply that my rhyme, (please don't call it a poem,) is ready, but was not named when I got your notice. It is one of those abnormal things that can be named almost anything, one name being as good as another. However, as it must be called something, suppose we give it this title, "Our Old Time Journalists, my idea of them, and their opinion of me." Trusting that I shall survive the meeting, I am, Sincerely yours,

GEO. A. QUIMBY.

The legislature will meet in this city at the capitol, on Wednesday of next week. Hon. S. S. Marble, who represents Lincoln county for the third consecutive term at the Senatorial board, will be chosen President, without opposition from his party. It is generally conceded that Charles E. Littlefield, Esq., of Rockland, will be chosen Speaker of the House, perhaps without opposition. There may be some trivial changes in the minor offices of the two branches, though no change is looked for in the State officials. There will probably be an entire change in the make-up of the Executive Council, the candidates being numerous for these positions. The legislature will be organized on Wednesday, and Gov. Bodwell inaugurated on Thursday and deliver his address. Of the many important measures to come before the general court, the *Farmer* will keep its readers fully posted.

Patient, tireless industry and faithfulness will win in this world every time, and be sure to reap a rich reward. Let the boy and young man have the interests of his employers at heart, and work for them with the same diligence and care as he would work for himself, and the reward will come in deserved promotion; the faithful apprentice becomes the honored leader and master workman. By the death of Mr. Johnson, Mr. George G. Mann, whom many of our readers know, becomes the sole landlord of the Quincy House, Boston. When Mr. Mann left his home in North Anson, twenty-two years ago, it is said he had just money enough in his pocket to carry him to Boston. When he got there he got a kit of bootblack's tools and went to work. But he did his work well. We'll wager a big apple that he gave as good a polish to the back of the boots as he did to the front. And thus by tireless industry he has worked his way up to a position which he is competent to fill.

As regards wealth the United States ranks first among the nations of the world. In revenue, France, Great Britain and Ireland and Germany are ahead of her, placing this country fourth. In expenditure she ranks eighth. In the amount of debt, France, the United Kingdom, Russia and Italy are far ahead of this country. In regard to commerce only three nations, the United Kingdom, Germany and France are ahead of us. The United States have more miles of railroad and telegraph lines than any other nation, and the value of American manufactures is greater than that of any other nation. The army of the United States if placed on a war footing would be excelled in numbers by only one nation in the world, France. On a peace footing the army of this country ranks below Russia, Italy, China, France, Germany, Austria, India, the United Kingdom, Turkey, Spain, Switzerland, Holland, Mexico, Belguim, Sweden, Japan, Denmark, Portugal, the Dutch East Indies and Persia. Thus, by a singular anomaly, the richest country in the world, keeps a smaller standing army than the Dutch East Indies, and many impoverished and unimportant countries. She has no effective coast fortifications, and only three modern ships of war.

Every true friend of agriculture had reason to be proud of the body of noble men and women who met in council at the State Grange, in this city, last week, who came from the extremes of the State to deliberate upon matters of importance to the order. The time has passed to speak lightly of the Patrons of Husbandry. The full report spread on these pages testify to the ability displayed. No question of importance to the State, socially, morally or intellectually, but received careful attention and thorough discussion. From the reports of the committees on education, insurance, good of the order, commercial relations, etc., we bespeak a careful reading, as also for the resolutions accepted. These were not hastily read and hurried through, but each received careful discussion, in order that when sent out to the public they should express the best thought of the patrons of Maine. The order, which has each year been growing steadily, has also been planting itself more and more firmly on a basis that will be enduring. Agriculture in Maine to-day looks to the Grange for its progressive work. Throughout the rural districts this order is coming to be the moulding influence, and is leading the good work of reform on social and intellectual questions. If the wisdom of the present prevails in the future, the patrons of Maine will wield a mighty influence in all reforms. Success to the order is the wish of every one interested in the welfare of the good old State of Maine.

Death of General Logan.

Like a flash of lightning from a clear sky, the announcement of the death of Gen. John A. Logan at Washington, went over the nation on Sunday afternoon last. It saddened the hearts of those who had sat with him in the councils of the nation, it brought tears to the eyes of the old soldiers who had fought with him, and grief to all who had confidence in him as a statesman. One by one have those who have been conspicuous in the war passed over among the silent majority, until of the original number, Sherman and Sheridan alone remain, while those who held subordinate positions, and the rank and file are passing away like the early dew before the rays of the morning sun.

The death of Gen. Logan was very sudden. He had been confined to his house for several days with rheumatism, with a lurking tendency to brain complications. For a day or two fatal results had been feared by the physicians, but were not apprehended by the immediate family and friends. The terrible pains were allayed, but they left the patient in a weak condition. After midnight of Saturday, his pulse grew weaker and at four o'clock Sunday morning his condition was such as to cause great fear of his immediate death. After this he rallied, but a little past one sank again, and it was apparent that the patient was rapidly sinking and could live but a few hours. At two o'clock the General revived sufficiently to recognize his wife who had been at his bedside night and day during his illness. As she spoke to him, he looked up into her face and recognized her. This was his last manifestation of consciousness. He then wearily closed his eyes and sank again into a lethargic condition from which he never woke, dying a little past three o'clock. Besides the family there were present at the death-bed: General Beal, General Phil Sheridan, Senators Cullom and Miller and their wives, Congressmen Symes, Henderson, Payson, Thomas, Mrs. Thomas, Solicitor-General Phillips, Dr. J. A. Powell of Chicago, General Green B. Raum, General Strong of Chicago, Beach Taylor, Logan's private secretary, and his wife and Mary Brady, a domestic, who has been regarded as a member of the family for years. For an hour or so before General Logan died his breathing was stertorious. Half reclining on the bed, on either side, were his wife and Mrs. Tucker intently studying his face. A few minutes before he died, his breathing became easy and his face calm and placid. As soon as death came, Dr. Newman made a brief, fervent prayer for the spirit of a noble man. Presently the family was left alone with the dead. Rev. Dr. Newman, in speaking of the last moments at the bedside of General Logan, said: It was most distressing to witness the terrible anguish of Mrs. Logan, her appeals to heaven to save her husband, her recalling the events of her early wifehood, and how she had then and since always tried to be to him a devoted and helpful companion in all the walks of life laid out for him in his worldly work. When the last moment came, as she left the room overcome with grief, turning to the physician she said in a firm, clear voice: 'Doctor, promise me that no knife shall mutilate the body of my husband.' The last hour," added Dr. Newman, "was one of struggle between nature and death. His respiration was heavy, and at intervals stopped. Then the intervals of silence grew longer. Immediately before death he spoke frequently, but not so as to enable those present to distinguish articulate sounds. The physician remarked to me that it was evidence of remarkable physical vitality, but that the effort was not vocal, rather a relief of the body from the terrible agonies it had suffered." General Logan leaves one son, John A. Logan, Jr., and one daughter, Mrs. Tucker. He had two brothers, James and Thomas, living in Murfreesboro, Tenn., and two sisters.

Great public grief was manifested everywhere, over what is considered a public calamity. The President and Mrs. Cleveland, Mr. Blaine, and in fact public men all over the country, sent messages of condolence, and gave their opinion concerning character and eminent public services of the deceased, eulogizing him very highly. Gen. Logan was a typical self-made American. Born in a home of poverty, with youth and early manhood spent amid the hardships and privations of a rough frontier life, he worked his own way by the force of his own character and the power of his own indomnitable will, up to a position of commanding influence, and to a place in the hearts of his countrymen which any statesman might well envy. Serving in the ranks in the war with Mexico, his soldier spirit was aroused at the breaking out of the war of the rebellion, in which he participated, and became the foremost "civilian" general of the Union forces. He was the founder of the Grand Army of the Republic, and next after Grant and Sherman he was, perhaps, the idol of the Union veterans, who recognized in him one of themselves. As a statesman, he was able, fearless, earnest, eloquent, and always honest.

John A. Logan was born in Jackson county, Ill., Feb. 9, 1826. His education was received in a common school. He served in the Mexican war first as a private, but was afterward made quartermaster, with the rank of first lieutenant. In 1849 he began his career in politics as clerk of the court of his native county. He afterward attended the Louisville University, from which he was graduated in 1852. Admitted to the bar, he soon made a reputation and was elected to the State Legislature of Illinois in 1853-53-56 and 1857, and was prosecuting attorney from 1853 to 1857. He was elected to Congress in 1858, and again in 1860, but resigned on the outbreak of the war and entered the Union army. In September, 1861, he was made colonel of his regiment, the Thirty-first Illinois, which he led into battle at Belmont, two months afterward. Colonel Logan was wounded at Fort Donelson.

He subsequently resumed his military duties, and was promoted to the rank of brigadier general, in which capacity he fought at Pittsburg Landing and in the West, until November, 1862, when he was made major-general. His services in the field continued useful and brilliant, and on the death of General McPherson, he was given command of the Army of the Tennessee. When General O. O. Howard relieved him in this position, he returned to the command of his corps, which he led until the fall of Atlanta. After this event he retired awhile from the army to engage in the political struggle then pending, but returned to military life upon General Sherman's arrival at Savannah, after his wonderful "march to the sea." Here he resumed his former position, and in May, 1864, succeeded Howard as commander of the Army of the Tennessee. Upon the termination of the war he resigned his command, and in November, 1865, was nominated as minister to Mexico, which, however, declined the honor. After serving two terms in Congress, he was made United States Senator in 1871, and was from the first, prominent in that capacity. He was the republican candidate for Vice President in 1884. After the election, when Congress reassembled, and it became necessary to fill the place of Vice-President Hendricks the Republican senators unanimously chose him, but he declined the honor. The circumstances of his last election to the Senate are fresh in the public mind.

General Logan was of striking personality, his long black hair and swarthy complexion often earning him sobriquets in political campaigns which will doubtless continue long in the memory of his fellow-countrymen. It was impossible by his appearance to make anything like an accurate guess at his age, and he was averse to talking about it. Indeed he never would allow the date of his birth to be stated in the Congressional Directory. Why he was so sensitive in the matter is not known, but of course his public record was sufficient to any one curious in the matter to approximate to it.

No small part of General Logan's success as a public man was due to his wife, and perhaps the brightest page in his history will treat of his domestic life, pure, beautiful and happy. In the midst of war, in the intrigues of politics, in the excitements and labors of legislative life, he has had a home and a family to which he has given and from which he has received the most ardent devotion. With all his quarrels and disappointments, General Logan's home has always been a place where he has found ove and rest. Although the greater part of his life has been spent in camps and boarding-houses, although he took his business into his family more than any man in public life has ever done, his domestic surroundings have been such as the happiest man could envy. His wife and children were with him in the army, and in political campaigns were always at his side.

At home, in Chicago, he was a regular attendant upon the services of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he was a member, and he was at all times and in all places a thorough temperance man. During his long career at Washington he was many times offered glittering bribes, but he never listened to the tempter. In his death the country sustains a serious loss.

General Logan's funeral will take place in the Senate chamber, next Friday, and the remains will be interred in a cemetery in Washington until a place of final burial is determined upon.

Water Works.

The Statistics of American Water Works (edited by J. J. Croes, published in the Engineering News) contained the returns of 803 water works in 1883, of 969 in 1885; the next issue will contain over 1400, and next year the number will probably increase more rapidly than in the past.

In our own State prior to 1884 there were only five cities actually being supplied with water for domestic purposes and extinguishment of fires, viz.: Portland, Lewiston, Auburn, Rockland and Bangor, while in 1886 there were seventeen cities and towns being supplied with water and eight others had made contracts or voted to introduce water for domestic purposes and for extinguishment of fires. In addition to the above list of cities the following places now have new water works: Biddeford, Saco, Deering, Rockland, Gardiner, Augusta, Calais, Bar Harbor, Houlton, Richmond, Brunswick, Norway and Paris; while Bath, Belfast, Camden, Farmington, Dover, Foxcroft and Eastport have made contracts, and both Ellsworth and Waterville have voted "yes" on this question. Many other places contemplate introducing water, and it is believed that before 1888 more than forty companies will be in successful operation.

Let the good work go on until every city and town shall have ample supply of pure water for all purposes. It is impossible to estimate the value of these enterprises to the State in the saving of its property from extensive conflagrations, such as have occurred in the past in Augusta, Portland, Farmington and Eastport, as well as by the saving of the lives of its citizens. Statistics show that a marked decrease in the death rate follows the introduction of water in a city or town. Pure water is a necessity, and we may well feel proud of the vast extent of the lakes and rivers of our State, and their availability for supplying water for manufacturing purposes as well as for municipal uses. By the liberal use of water for power and domestic uses, we expect to see our towns, cities and the State become more populous and prosperous, rapidly increasing in wealth, and all that pertains to health and longevity.

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH. There was a meeting of the State Board of Health all day Monday, to consider and formulate proposed health laws for enactment by the next legislature. All the members were present with the exception of Dr. Young, who is in Europe. The Board will ask for the passage of a law which shall make it obligatory upon every town in the State to maintain a Board of Health. This board is not to be made up of town officials, but its members must be appointed for the purpose. It is the desire of the State board that they have these local boards, among other reasons that they can at all times obtain information on matters pertaining to health. No new constituted the health boards are of but little practical value in the smaller towns. Changes will be asked for in the law pertaining to contagious diseases, requiring immediate notification, isolation and disinfection. The law now in force is old and one of more modern construction is needed, so the Board say.

A BREAK IN THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR THREATENED. Unless word is received from the General Executive Board of the Knights of Labor, granting the demand of the assemblies of Portland, for the restoration of a local trade charter, nearly 4000 Knights in Philadelphia, and thousands in other parts of the country will withdraw from the order. Twenty-one assemblies throughout the country have petitioned the executive Board that unless the trades charter is granted they will leave the order, and most of those in Philadelphia have given notice that unless the demand is acceded to they will withdraw. The trades charter, as a right under the constitution of the order, that they shall be allowed to direct the business pertaining to their own interests. The executive board, the general committee are in favor of granting these demands, but Mr. Powderly, with a majority of the Board, is opposed to the scheme, and it is not likely that any word will be received by the disaffected assemblies. Some of the machinists' assemblies have decided to wait until the first of the year, and if the national charter is not granted by that time they will follow the lead of the Philadelphia assemblies, and over 50,000 Knights will sever their relations with the order.

An order has been issued by Capt. Lane of the Department of Maine, G. A. R., relative to the death of Gen. Logan, in which it is said: "Since Lincoln died, comrades, we had no one in national councils more true to our interests, no one whose loss came so close to the heart of every soldier. Posts will drape their halls, and comrades will wear the usual badge of mourning for a period of sixty days. Colors will be displayed at half-mast until the day of the funeral." A movement is to be made among the Grand Army posts to raise money to pay the mortgage on Gen. Logan's Washington home.

About all the ice companies on the Kennebec river have been scraping. Rich, the Knickerbockers at Farmingdale, Chelsea, Smithtown, Dresden and Iceboro, Bodwell & Allen, Hayes & Lawrence, Great Falls, at Pittston and So. Gardiner, the Independents, Consumers, Haley, Berry, Cochrane & Oler, Haynes & Dewitt, Russell, and Morse, and having been at it. The Centennial have done nothing yet, and the Independents have done nothing at the Powers houses, and no move has been made at Carney's and Twing's Points. The ice is 12 inches thick, of excellent quality. A few days of zero weather and they will be able to be lively times along the Kennebec.

The State Grange did itself much credit by re-electing as one of its members of the important Executive Committee, Mr. J. W. Lang of Bowdoinham. His services are indespensable. Modest and retiring, seeking no personal praise or self-glorification, he works for the Grange cause because he loves it. Such men are raised up in every walk of life to bless the special fields in which they thrust in the sickle, and the harvests which they reap are rich in good results. Long wave Bro. Lang!

The will of the late Marshall P. Wilder bequeaths to the Massachusetts Horticulture Society, and the American Pomological Society $1000 each, the income to be devoted to prizes for objects of special merit. Other bequests include personal property to members of his immediate family.

A blizzard raged at Marshalltown, Ia., Sunday. The thermometer fell gradually from 3° below at 11 A. M., to 21° below at 9 P. M., and at 4 o'clock Monday morning was 28° below—the coldest of the season. It was a perfectly calm morning.

The Portland *Advertiser* says: "A prominent officer connected with the enforcement of the liquor law received the sum of $120, sent by a well known liquor dealer as a Christmas present. He returned it.

State Treasurer Burleigh went to Boston recently to purchase bonds for the State sinking fund. He finds the holders of Maine's securities very loth to part with them except at a large premium.

The shingle mill of H. Stevens & Sons at Fort Fairfield, is to be lighted by electricity, and the wires extend a mile up the river to light their boom for sorting lumber in the spring, at a cost of over $1000.

Hon. John L. Stevens of Augusta is editing for the Henry Bell Publishing Company of Hartford, Mr. Blaine's speeches, which will soon be published in a volume.

The Western Union Telegraph Co., have expended in Maine since last May $26,000 for labor, and $10,000 for poles and other material.

Mrs. Fred A. Harris of Portland, died suddenly, Thursday, from an overdose of medicine. She was in good health, Wednesday, and was out shopping.

The Maine Insane Hospital.

The people of this State have a tender interest in all that pertains to the Maine Insane Hospital and its management. Therefore it is with great pleasure that we present our readers with an abstract of the officers' reports, compiled carefully from the manuscript of the same:

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

The Trustees report that the number of patients under treatment, the daily average, and number remaining at close of the year, was larger, and the rate of mortality lower than that of any previous year of the existence of the Hospital, thus denoting that insanity is increasing, and that, too, beyond the rate of increase of population. The institution is practically free from indebtedness, indicating the efficient management of the finances by the Treasurer.

At the regular visits of the board, an inspection of every ward has been made, every patient has been seen, and the condition of each one noted. The condition of the buildings, farm, stock, etc., has been critically examined. A hearing has been given to all the complaints. The lady visitors have also made their regular visits. The farming operations of the year, under the supervision of Mr. Horace Cony, have been managed with commendable skill. The hay crop, which was of superior quality, exceeded that of the previous year by 25 tons, 200 tons being produced. There are now upon the farm the following stock: 33 cows, 5 2-year-old heifers, 1 3-year-old Holstein bull, 5 oxen, 8 horses, and 416 swine. Four of the horses are used upon the farm, and the other four for taking the patients to ride and the necessary driving of the hospital. Among the products of the farm were 530 bushels of oats, 45 bushels of beans, 887 bushels of potatoes, and 62,609 quarts of milk. Included in the supplies of the garden are 729 pounds of asparagus, 263 bushels of eating and cooking apples, 105½ bushels of green beans, 11,141 pounds of table beets, 42,000 pounds of cattle beets, 8662 lbs. cabbage, 11,180 lbs. carrots, 3805 cucumbers, 30,231 ears of green corn, 1300 heads of celery, 1877 heads lettuce, 17,851 lbs. onions, 626 lbs. rhubarb, 500 lbs. raspberries, 1146 lbs. strawberries, 2225 lbs. summer squash, 9153 lbs. Hubbard squash, 14,078 lbs. table turnips, 14,900 lbs. tomatoes, 1383½ bushels green peas. The garden and green houses have continued under the excellent management of Mr. Wm. H. Allen. The construction of new green houses in a different location has been effected. The buildings are of brick, and afford every modern and needed convenience.

The need of an abundant water supply to every part of the premises, will now at last be met by the contract made with the Augusta Water Co., by which an unlimited supply is to be furnished for a term of 30 years at $1400 per year. The present limited and unsatisfactory supply costs $1800 per annum. Great attention has been given the past year to sanitary matters. In the extreme male wing there has been introduced the most improved system of ventilation, water-closets have been overhauled, bath-rooms remodelled, and apartment dressing rooms constructed.

The institution consumes annually about 2500 tons of coal, which has to be drawn up an exceedingly steep hill. It is suggested that this could be done at a saving by the use of a tramway and cars, moved by steam power and an endless chain.

In regard to the criminally insane, the Trustees call attention to the recommendations of their last report, asking for further legislation upon the subject, so that they may be enabled to provide for the care and restraining of this class of insane persons. The helpless insane are now obliged to mingle with murderers, thieves and cutthroats.

Again the suggestion is made that the old brick chapel, in front of the main building, an unsightly blot upon the otherwise beautiful landscape, be removed to a different location, and enlarged for practical purposes. The immediate necessities of the hospital require the enlargement of the chapel, kitchen, bakery and laundry.

The Trustees state that Dr. Bigelow T. Sanborn, Superintendent, is entitled to their highest commendation for the fidelity, skill and humane spirit in which he performs the responsible and often trying duties of his office, to the interests of the institution and those under his care. The faithfulness exhibited by the assistant Superintendents, Drs. Hill and Davies, in carrying into execution the plans of the Superintendent, shows them to be men of efficient coadjutors. Warm words of just commendation are spoken concerning the Steward and Treasurer, John W. Chase, and the other officers and attendents, and, in conclusion, they ask from the State the continuance of its liberal policy towards the institution. The report is signed by the entire board of Trustees, James Weymouth, Daniel O. Bowen, Mrs. Emma J. Torsey, E. A. Thompson, J. W. Dearborn, J. H. Manley.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

In beginning his report, Dr. Sanborn humbly acknowledges Divine assistance in leading this great charity, with all its increased interests, safely through another year, and crowning its labors with so large a share of success. The patients have been signally preserved from epidemic or zymotic maladies of any character. There has also been immunity from painful accidents, which often happen during the course of mental disease.

At the beginning of the year, Dec. 1, 1885, there were resident in the Hospital 486 patients—241 men and 245 women. Two hundred and thirty-one have been admitted since—127 men and 104 women; making the whole number under treatment, 717—368 men and 349 women. Of these, there have been discharged 189—106 men and 83 women; leaving at the close of the year, 528—262 men and 266 women. One hundred and seventy-six of those admitted during the year were on their first admission, 38 on their second, 7 on their third, 7 on their fourth, 2 on their fifth, and 1 on his eighth. Condition of those *discharged*: Recovered, 66—38 men and 28 women; much improved, 34—18 men and 16 women; improved, 22—10 men and 12 women; unimproved, 6—4 men and two women; not insane, 1 man; died, 60—35 men and 25 women. Of the 66 discharged recovered, 45—25 men and 20 women—were on their first admission; 11—9 men and 2 women—were on their second; 2—1 man and 1 woman—were on their third; 5—2 men and 3 women—were on their fourth; 2 women on their fifth, and 1 man on his tenth.

The death rate has been 2¼ per cent. less than last year. Aside from the deaths resulting from epilepsy and the fatal cases of paresis, the mortuary record has been largely confined to terminal dementia, or to those cases suffering from a mental malady of such a character as to have but little power to resist disease in any form. Some had passed the allotted period, whose lives had become to them a burden, and death was a release. Two men committed suicide, one of whom was admitted only the day prior to the sad event, and who was reported by his friends "not suicidal." Both suicided by drowning in the Kennebec. Examination of the records show that 66 persons have been committed to the institution the past year of suicidal tendencies.

The causes of death appeared to be as follows: Acute mania, 2 men; acute melancholia, 2 men; apoplexy, 1 woman; chronic mania, 2—1 man and 1 woman; chronic melancholia, 1 woman; chronic dementia, 2—1 man and 1 woman; diarrhœa, 1 man; exhaustive mania, 2—1 man and 1 woman; epilepsy, 7—5 men and 1 woman; erysipelas, 1 man; fibroid tumor, 1 woman; general paralysis, 6 men; hydropericardium, 2—1 man and 1 woman; latent phthisis, 4—1 man and 3 women; paralysis, 1 woman; phthisis pulmonalis, 2—1 man and 1 woman; paralysis of heart, 1 woman; senile dementia, 4—3 men and 1 woman; suicide, 2 men; terminal dementia, 16—7 men and 9 women. The average age at death was: males, 48.41; females, 52.45; total average, 49.13 years.

The assigned causes of insanity in those admitted during the year are as follows: Critical period of life, 16 women; chloral habit, 1 man; congenital, 1 man; dissolute life, 2 women; domestic infelicity, 8—3 men and 6 women; disappointed affection, 1 man; epilepsy, 13—8 men and 5 women; excessive use of tobacco, 1 man; electric shock, 1 man; financial embarrassment, 5 men; general paralysis, 4 men; ill health, 32—7 men and 25 women; intemperance, 21 men; injury of spine, 2 women; injury of head, 4 men; loss of relatives, 4—1 man and 3 women; measles, 2 women; masturbation, 10 men; over-exertion, 13—9 men and 4 women; puberty, 7—1 man and 6 women; puerperal, 1 woman; religious excitement, 1 man; rheumatism, 1 man; sunstroke, 6—5 men and 1 woman; senility, 13—8 men and 5 women; suppression of menses, 1 woman; syphilis, 2 men; typhoid fever, 1 man; unknown, 52—29 men and 23 women; vaginismus, 1 woman.

The social condition of those admitted during the year, we find to be as follows: Married, 102—54 men and 48 women; widowed, 27—11 men and 16 women; single, 99—59 men and 40 women; unknown, 3 men.

The Hospital has now been in operation 46 years, during which time 6,844 patients have been admitted, and 6,316 have been discharged. Of the latter, 1,373 improved, 1,034 did not improve, and 1,480 died. The actual number of individual patients admitted has been 5,185.

Dr. Sanborn gives additional emphasis to the valuable suggestions he has heretofore made concerning the treatment of patients, which should be both medical and moral. Besides the medicine given, there has been a gratifying and satisfactory progress in the direction of increased manual employment. During the summer months the patients frequently availed themselves of the privilege of exercise in the open air, sometimes spending nearly all the day, accompanied by attendants, upon the lawns playing croquet or engaged in some other recreation. The regular course of entertainments has been kept up; good singers have furnished vocal music, and the Hospital Band instrumental music. A new Parlor Grand Piano has been introduced into the middle convalescent ward of the pavilion for women.

The subjects of general hygiene and repairs and improvements, referred to by the Trustees, are discussed at length, as is also the water supply.

The libraries continue to be enlarged and to serve the purposes for which they were intended. The land purchased since last year has given room greatly needed by the Hospital.

But notwithstanding so much has been accomplished, the Hospital still has needs, which may briefly be enumerated thus: The disassociation of the criminal insane from the more deserving and less dangerous class of patients, and caring for them in a separate ward. There are 20 such persons now in the Hospital. More and better room for the help employed. Urgent and immediate need for repairs and improvements in the laundry and its machinery. Repairs on the entire roofing of the old wing. Resilling and painting the barns. Reconstruction of certain water-closets and bath-rooms.

In conclusion, the Superintendent expresses his obligations to the Trustees, visiting committees, and his subordinate officers and associates, for the efficient help rendered him, which has greatly lightened his burdens, and given renewed courage for present and future labor.

We have already referred to the excellent financial condition of the institution. From the Treasurer's report we take the following figures:

Comparative statement of Resources and Liabilities Nov. 30, 1886:

RESOURCES.	
Cash on hand	$4907.02
Due from State of Maine for support of patients	11,925.63
Due from towns and individuals for support of patients	19,497.01
Provisions, groceries, crockery, furniture, etc., on hand per inventory	4,054.41
Dry goods, clothing, etc., on hand per inventory	3,333.78
Medical supplies on hand per inventory	470.17
Coal and gas oil on hand per inventory	9,170.07
Horses, cows, swine, poultry, produce per inventory	7,568.34
Repairs and improvements, pipe fitting, lumber and materials on hand per inventory	1,952.91
Expense, stationery, blank books and office materials on hand per inventory	211.55
Real estate, Norton house and lot purchase in 1886	900.00
	$63,900.79

LIABILITIES.	
Due firms and individuals on account of supplies	$18,445.40
Due employees, pay roll	5,927.85
Amusement fund	1 000.00
	$25,373.25
Net available resources as per Hospital account	$37,531.54
Total Receipts and Disbursement of Cash for year ending Nov. 30, 1886:	
DR.	
Balance cash on hand Dec. 1, 1885	$2,276.33
Receipts of cash for year	116,142.17
	$118,419.70
CR.	
Total disbursements of cash for year	$112,512.68
Balance cash on hand Nov. 30, 1886	4,907.02
	$118,419.70

The retiring Chapiain, Rev. C. F. Penney, who has held the office for so many years, makes an affectionate though brief farewell report.

Grange Thoughts.

The old year of Grange life and work has passed away, the new year is dawning upon us. What it is to be depends upon individual patrons all working together for best results. It is time to look over the field. It is an opportunity to lay out the work. It is time to make an effort. No doubt every member of the order wants to see the largest healthy growth possible this year, so let us work together that it shall be had. We hope the several county Granges at their next session will take up the subject of "good of the order" in their several jurisdictions, and deliberate upon the best means and efforts for the increase of membership, the revival of dormant or semi-dormant Granges, and also for organization of new ones. These subjects are of great importance and should be carefully considered at the opening of the new year. Let there be an earnest emulation.

State Lecturer D. H. Thing is to be out of the State during the months of January and February. He is to labor in the lecture field in Vermont, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, under direction of the National Lecturer, Bro. Mortimer Whitehead. We are glad to know that our State lecturer is appreciated outside of our own State, and that he is called to broader fields to gather in the harvest. Maine patrons are in the front.

The recent session of the Maine State Grange was characterized by great harmony, and a general desire to give attention strictly to business in hand. The usefulness and efficacy of providing a programme and plan for the meeting is strongly sustained by results.

The good of the order demands very many conditions and things. Do not imagine that it requires large numbers to make a good or useful Grange. Numbers are desirable, but an excess not to be sought for at sacrifice of well being. A large number of small Granges is better than a small number of large ones.

Choose the programmes in advance of the meeting, so that each member will be prepared with useful and practical information, and if you are unable to arrive at satisfactory conclusions, write to your State Lecturer for counsel and suggestion. Don't fail to select interesting and practical subjects for discussion, which will prevent the meetings from getting tame and unattractive. When each member feels that he has a duty to perform, he will do it with greater pleasure than when no work is imposed upon him. Establish communication between yourselves and neighboring Granges, either by letter or delegation. If there is a farmer in the vicinity who is quite an authority on any branch of farming, invite him to be present, or ask him to send in a paper to be read and discussed, or better still induce him to join the Grange. Write to your agricultural paper and make your wants and feelings known; if your objects are laudable, which they are sure to be, your editor will sympathize with you, and help you all he can.

Sometimes you can see several years through the mists of the future on some points, as perhaps you can do at this moment, so you should discuss plans of organizing the farming community on a larger scale. There are lively issues in store for you in the near future, and as you cannot build up a formidable organization all at once, commence now, and let the good work go on slowly but surely. J. W. L.

RECENT DEATHS. Rev. S. H. Keeler, D. D., attended Winter Hill Congregational church, Somerville, Mass., Sunday, and during the opening prayer fell from a standing position he had assumed with the congregation, to his seat and then to one side, as though he had fainted. He was quickly removed, but died in a few moments. Mr. Keeler was 89 years old, and was ordained to the ministry in 1829, his first settlement being in South Berwick, Me.

The State Prison.

It is gratifying to the inspectors, Joseph W. Porter, D. G. Bean and Henry S. Osgood to be able to report that the year ending Nov. 30, 1886, has been a successful year of prison history. The officers of the prison have been prompt to duty, the rules and regulations have been enforced and obeyed, and the conduct of the prisoners has been very satisfactory. It has not been our whole aim and effort to inaugurate and maintain that management of the prison which has in view only the greatest amount of money made from the convicts' labor, disregarding all other interests, but it has been our intention to advise and support such measures as shall benefit both convict and State and bring the greatest good to both.

The Inspectors discuss at considerable length the subject of convict labor, and say that all agree that in States where the convict population is large, that the convict be compelled or allowed to labor. About one-quarter of the convicts are placed in the harness shop, and the remainder in the wood shop, blacksmith shop and paint shop, while about one-tenth are kept at prison duties. The prisoner in a short time learns a trade and becomes a good workman.

Warden G. S. Bean reports:

There has been expended upon buildings and for repairs, $607.23, in addition to the legislative appropriation, beside labor of convicts, paid from the current year's earnings.

Unless new shops are erected or steam introduced, the warden sees no reason why the appropriations for the two coming years need exceed those for the last two.

The average yearly product of the harness and carriage department from 1883 to 1886 inclusive, is 1,000 sets harness, $41,53; carriages, $44,402.64; total, $72,004.47.

The number of convicts in custody Dec. 1, 1885, was 181; committed since, 48; removed on *habeas corpus* in 1884 and returned to serve sentence, 1; total, 230. There were discharged during the year by expiration of sentence, 53; pardoned, 3; removed to Insane Hospital, 1; deceased, 2; escaped, 1. Total, 60. Present number, 170.

Following are the crimes for which sentences are being served: Arson, 4; assault, 1; assault and battery, 4; assault and battery and compound larceny, 3; assault and robbery, 1; assault to kill, 6; assault to rape, 3; assaulting officer, 1; being a tramp, 1; breaking and entering, 5; breaking, entering and larceny; burglary and assaulting officer, 1; cheating by false pretenses, 1; common thief, 1; compound larceny, 10; embezzleing, 1; entering and larceny, 2; felonious assault, 1; forgery, 3; incest, 1; larceny, 28; larceny from persons, 3; larceny, forgery and uttering, 1; murder, 11; murder, second degree, 8; manslaughter, 6; passing counterfeit money, 2; piracy, 2; polygamy, 2; rape, 4; receiving stolen goods, 1; robbery, 2; uttering forged order, 1. Total, 170.

The average sentence of convicts is 4 years, 2 months and 8 days. Thirty-four are serving a 10 years' sentence and 32 are for life. One is to be hanged. The average age of those sentenced is 30 years, 4 months. The oldest when sentenced was 73 years.

The number of convicts from each county is as follows:

Androscoggin, 4; Aroostook 14; Cumberland 45; Franklin 1; Hancock 5; Kennebec 10; Knox 9; Lincoln 4; Oxford 5; Penobscot 12; Piscataquis 5; Sagadahoc 8; Somerset 4; Waldo 3; Washington 8; York 6; United States court 3.

The nativity of the convicts is as follows: Maine 106; New Hampshire 6; Vermont, 2; Massachusetts 12; Connecticut 1; Rhode Island 2; Indiana 1; Louisiana 2; Illinois 2; California 1; Maryland 1; Michigan 2; New York 2; Pennsylvania 2; Nova Scotia 5; New Brunswick 3; Canada 5; Denmark 1; England 3; Ireland 5; France 2; Finland 1; Germany 2; Italy 1.

Dr. Levensaler, physician and surgeon to the prison, in his report says that the general health of the institution has improved within the past few years by the more rigid enforcement of sanitary rules and the connection of evils arising from defective sewerage.

The Jail Inspectors, in their report, state that the jails of the several counties have been inspected in their respective counties the past year, with one or two exceptions. In some of the jails the care and discipline of the prisoners have been easy and loose. Escapes have been quite frequent from a lack of care. Prisoners have not been allowed to herd together on the corridors as much as formerly. Even and just treatment has not been meted out to prisoners in all cases. It does not follow that because prisoners have money and friends that they should be provided with luxurious apartments and furnishings. Not long since a female prisoner in one of the large jails enjoyed the facts, says a report, *le jour-portiere*, extra furniture, and the companionship of two poodle dogs. As heretofore the counties without jails seem to have less crime than those counties with jails. This, say the Inspectors, seems a strange state of affairs.

The number of prisoners in the jails Nov. 30, 1886, was as follows: Androscoggin 44; Aroostook 5; Cumberland 109; Franklin none; Hancock 3; Kennebec jail, Lincoln 21; Oxford none; Penobscot 33; Somerset none; Waldo none

...nty News.

...of Branch Mills, ...ast week.

...gs Institution pays ...for six months.

...holars at the Semi... the largest number ...term.

...Pittston, slaugh... eighteen months old, ...red pounds dressed ...r high?

...na, the well known ...returned from a ...friend churches in ...e Island.

...at Winthrop, has ...g the week, and ...te plenty. Prices ...se as the latter part ...$2.50 being offered.

...enterprise among ...of Gardiner, is a ...to Togus, striking ...is claimed that it ...d for $50,000.

...ill continues brisk, ...ll & Co., of Vassal... ge quantities. Mr. ...d about 3000 bbls. ...tonight. He has ...ough the country

...len Co., at North ...efficient manage... Chas. Greenwood, ...ssity to add four ...teadily increasing ...ssible to fill their ...t amount of ma...

...f Winthrop, aged ...tmas day, mainly ...received some time ...ther of K. L. Nor... morse man of Man... an of an iron con... oarders and done ...ith the accident.

...Mary Ellis had a ...of this month that ...W. King one of ...one of 495 pounds; ...unds; J. Manvell ...W. Chandler four ...800 pounds; J. P. ...spring pig that ...Lawyer Jeffrey ...ighed 391; D. T. ... Donnell, one of

...eus Spaulding of ...their many friends ...their residence on ...e was laden with ...mental tokens of ...ing their presents ...epast which con... cold meat and ...h was excellent, ...nd Mrs. Edward ...ers, and Amos

...f the factory at ...y S. R. Payson, ...chased the prop... ly is to be moved ...desired that some ...owell parties. It ...investment, as it ...ing the last few ...ll can be managed ...new corporation ... "The Kennebec ...t is that it will

...me subscriber of ...George N. Page, ...ston, on Friday ...s, 8 months. He ...disease, but his ...d by old age and ...deceased was one ...place, respected ...years ago he and ...d their golden ...one son and two ...r. George Cony of ...Page of Boston.

...rmerly of the firm ...fishers and editors ...d at his house in ...t, at 12 o'clock. ...a year ago, had ...s, and since that ...the house with ...weeks. Shortly ...Dec. 2d, '85, his ... Mr. Maxham, ... would never be ...ition in the *Mail*, ...r. He has been ...ce. He came to ...n Vermont and

NEBEC STILL ON

...lls on the upper ...ped from throw... ...er, and a few be... ...our Augusta saw ...dall, Lambard & ...ge sluice through ...avings are blown ...l raft is hitched ...nd carload after ...ark and shingle ...n. The raft will ...the mill makes ...day, that makes ...raft by day and ...The three re... ...uled off into the ...the curse off of

...dest fishermen on ...out of seventeen ...ht near Augusta ...ar one sad-eyed ...near Augusta Pye ...s gills were solid ...ably would have ...rone more week. ...dust cost Charles ...kick out of nets in ...orly prepared to ...Penobscot River ...l rubbish of all ...waters; it was ...d 12 years ago ...ortsman when he ...n, goes to Penob... fish every time. ...almon has in... ours have gone ...er is purer. Nor... shavings and ...channel, that in ...ll government ...e, or navigation ...One boom at Hal... on, is filled up ...causes the com... dark daily in sum... ter. And shall ...this? Methinks ...ing done besides ...

T.

...e Proctor's buck... mill at Norway. ...The cause of the ... The loss was ...-Lakenwild, the ...S. Read, on the ...Calais, was de... is supposed that ...fireplace in his ...the lower floors ...condition. Loss ...partially covered ...Anson street, ...by the Saturday ... Loss $1000. ...y in a wooden ...bs' art store and ...Portland. The ...d story of the ... workshop by ...bout $2000; in... & Co. occupied ...e going to bed. ...ill be rebuilt.

Items of Maine News.

Some of the swine in Bath are dying of a disease resembling the black measles.

An influenza is prevailing quite extensively among horses in North Madison and adjoining towns.

R. G. Harding, grocer, of Gorham, has assigned to D. W. True & Co., Portland. Liabilities about $19,000; nominal assets about $21,000.

Visitors who have taken an interest in the condition of workmen at Bar Harbor, are to take measures to provide a reading room there for their benefit.

A stock company has lately been formed under the title of "Sebasticook Granite Company," to operate on St. Albans mountain, in Harmony.

Joseph Baldina, a stone cutter at Andrew & Sons' quarry, Biddeford, was seriously if not fatally injured, by a falling derrick Tuesday. His home is in Nashua, N. H.

Parties from Holyoke, Mass., have bonded the mill privilege at Carratunk Falls, Solon, on both sides, for six months. There is talk that a pulp mill may be built.

The directors of the Canal Bank at Portland, have received a communication from the defaulting teller, Howard I. Blackstone, giving a full history of all his stealings. He took about $50,000.

Capt. A. H. Merriman, a well-known retired sea captain of Brunswick, had a severe apoplectic shock Thursday, while out driving. He died on Thursday. He was largely interested in navigation and banking.

Hon. Geo. A. Frost, member of ex-Gov. Washburne's council, slipped and fell at his residence in Springfield, Tuesday. He broke his collar bone and was bruised quite severely.

Prof. L. C. Bateman of Searsmont, writes to the Belfast *Journal* that while in New Jersey he dug into the grave of Corn Horse, the great war chief of the Delaware tribe of Indians, and found a battle axe, a dozen tomahawks, and seventy-five flint arrow-heads. It was a big find.

Mrs. F. G. Parker has sold the *North Star* at Presque Isle, to Geo. H. Collins of Bridgewater, who is to take possession the first of next month. Mr. Collins was a former resident of Presque Isle. He has been the short hand reporter in the Pennsylvania legislature for several years.

When the late Gen. Logan was in Portland in attendance on the Grand Army reunion in 1885 he was the guest of Congressman Reed, and on leaving forgot his cane, a plain silver-topped walking stick. The cane is still at Mr. Reed's house and is now of course a relic of great value.

There are in Maine thirty-four post-offices of the Presidential grade. Of these, two, Augusta and Portland, are of the first class. Seven, Auburn, Bangor, Bath, Biddeford, Lewiston, Rockland and Waterville, are offices of the second class, and the remaining thirty-five are of the fourth class.

The most historical building in Dresden is unquestionably the old Court House, built in 1760. Its dimensions are 44 by 45 feet on the ground, and three stories high. It is said that fifty or two cases tried in the State were executed within its walls. The house is now owned and occupied by Capt. S. R. Goodwin.

The average annual catch of lobsters on the Maine coast has been 75 millions for thirty years, or 450 millions within that period. About 200 millions have been used by the canning establishments. No wonder the lobster has decreased in size and numbers. The laws for his preservation were passed none too soon.

The grand jury in Skowhegan reported eight indictments. Mrs. Emma G. Brown and Albert Hurd of Harmony, for arson; one common seller; one larceny; one forgery; two towns for defective highway. Two indictments were found against the Hurd boy for arson. The arson cases will be tried this term.

A little child of Capt. J. Brown of Boothbay, fell down stairs last Friday evening, and broke a kerosene lamp. The oil instantly flamed up, enveloping the child and Capt. Brown, who was at hand to rescue the screaming sufferer, was burned badly, losing the most of his beard. The child is believed to be out of danger.

A number of changes will be made in the county officials of Somerset county, January 1st. E. F. Danforth succeeds J. O. Bradbury as county attorney, Albert Leavitt and A. H. Chase succeed A. J. Moore and C. P. Hilton as county commissioners, W. H. Emery succeeds H. C. Decker as Register of Deeds, George Cushing succeeds A. O. Frederic as treasurer.

The people of Farmington Falls have voted down a motion to appropriate $1500 for the purchase of a Blake pump, 2000 feet of hose, etc., and also a motion to raise $1000 for the same purpose. The selectmen were instructed to make application to the legislature for a reduction of the State tax of Farmington for the next two years.

The connecting rod of the engine Minerva, on the east bound passenger train, due at Biddeford on the western division of the Boston & Maine at 9.14 A. M., broke a mile from Biddeford, Tuesday morning. The revolving fragment of the rod demolished the cab, and broke the boiler bolts, causing the steam to escape. Engineer Smith was knocked down and barely escaped being killed.

Hon. Llewellyn Powers of Houlton, and Miss Mattie Averill, daughter of Luther A. Averill, Esq., were married at the residence of the bride's father at Lincoln Centre, in the presence of a few friends and relatives, Saturday afternoon. The happy couple left on the evening train from Bangor for Boston, where they will reside at an elegant residence just purchased there by Mr. Powers.

Pensions have been granted to the following Maine veterans: Hiram R. Stearns, Orono; Henry Curtis, Guilford; G. H. Cram, Waterboro; Z. S. Soule, Lubec; Ezra C. Marriner, South Gardiner. The following have been granted an increase of pension: J. D. Foss, Augusta; S. V. Hartford, Brewer; Michael McMahon, Togus; G. U. Haskell, East North Yarmouth; John Shelton, Augusta; Julius C. Chandler, Mapleton.

The need of a direct line of railroad is felt in Presque Isle, in the amount of freight for which waiting shippers are notified. Vessels are full and the buyers unable to obtain cars as fast as they need for transportation. As a consequence the farmers have to sell their potatoes at reduced prices. Potatoes bring in Houlton about 30 cents per bushel more than in Presque Isle, and only 40 miles difference in the distance. James H. Oak has gone out of the livery business on account of the high freight charged.

The adjourned annual meeting of the Piscataquis Game and Fish Protection Association was held at Monson, December 24, when the following officers were elected: President, E. C. Hall; Vice Presidents, E. H. Crosby, Monson, J. B. Mathews, Portland; Secretary, E. R. Haynes, Monson; Treasurer, F. J. Wilkins, Monson; Executive Committee—J. F. Sprague, E. R. Haynes, A. W. Capen; Directors—S. S. Cole, F. A. Hart, A. J. Cushman, J. C. Tripp, W. C. Jackson, G. A. Mathews, T. P. Elliott, G. F. Jackson, G. P. Rice, Monson, C. H. Enfield, Salem, Mass., O. A. Dennen, Mt. Kineo.

Melvin W. Higgins, night editor of the Portland *Argus*, died suddenly, Tuesday morning, of heart disease. He did his work as usual, Monday night, reporting the fire shortly after one o'clock, Tuesday morning. He came home about four o'clock out of breath and complained of his chest. He wrote a report of the fire and went home at the usual time. He died soon after going to bed. He had been connected with the *Argus* since 1880, reporting papers, learning the printer's trade, and being night foreman. He had been night editor for 15 years. His age was 50 years. He leaves a widow and one daughter.

The December term of the Supreme Judicial Court for Knox county, began Friday night after a fortnight's session. Charles A. Simmons for larceny of a boat was sentenced to one year in the State Prison; George A. Webber for the same offense to one year, and one year also on an indictment of breaking and entering the store of the Bodwell Granite Company at Spruce Head; Wm. H. King for breaking and entering the same store, one year; Burbidge Stone for breaking and entering the store of Hymen Gallart in Rockland, five years; Edward Cook, breaking into the dwelling house of Samuel Lampson at St. George, one year; William Sheldon, for the same offence, three years. All these parties are residents of St. George.

Mr. John Edwards, Sr., the oldest printer in Portland, Me., and a partner in the firm that began the publication of the Portland *Daily Advertiser* 50 years ago, died Thursday morning, aged 85. He was a native of Boston, but went to Portland in 1814, there learned his trade and in 1825 acquired his half-interest in the *Advertiser*, and after 1830 he was the sole editor and proprietor of the Bangor *Whig*, and later on published the Portland *Tribune* and *Bulletin* and the *Daily Umpire*. For many years past he has been retired from business. Jones, Charles, is the United States Lighthouse Service, another son, Henry, is in business in Chicago, and his daughter is the wife of Mr. E. A. Noyes, Treasurer of the Portland Savings Bank.

Shocking intelligence comes from Franklin, in Hancock county, that Saturday evening Dr. Patten, an aged man, was burned to death in his own house in which he lived alone. Years ago he was a very successful dentist but lost his practice through intemperance. Of late years he has lived alone in a small house, where he got a living by cobbling and mending harnesses. On Saturday evening last, while nearly all the people in the village were attending a Christmas entertainment at the church, Dr. Patten's house took fire, and when it was discovered, the flames had broken out through the roof. An alarm was given, and when the citizens reached the house, they burst open the door only to find the charred remains of the doctor just inside. So badly was he burned that life was extinct.

Items of General News.

The English parliament is to meet in February.

Western agriculturists are protesting against the landing of English rabbits.

The New York fire insurance men are somewhat agitated over the question of brokers' fees, and a war of rates is feared.

Cattle are dying rapidly from a disease supposed to be pleuro-pneumonia in Northwest and Southwest Iowa.

A fire in Liverpool, the most disastrous for years, destroyed $2,000,000 worth of Christmas goods.

President Cleveland has so far recovered from his rheumatism as to be able to ride out.

The snow storm in England is said to be the worst in many years. Telegraph wires and poles are down in all directions.

Maurice Walsh, shepherd on the farm of Hon. John E. Russell, at Leicester, Mass., was terribly bitten by a mad dog, Wednesday.

It is said that the trials of Squire and Flynn at New York will soon be pushed. The district attorney's office is beginning to prepare for the trials.

The farmers in the Cape Colony intend to send Queen Victoria a robe, dolman and fan composed of ostrich feathers, as a jubilee present.

The old and well known shipping house of Pilley Nickerson, Boston, has succumbed to the panic, and made an assignment, with $200,000 liabilities.

Temple Theatre, on Chestnut street, Philadelphia, was destroyed by fire on Monday morning. During the fire two firemen were killed and one severely injured.

The wife of Charles Burger of Rushville, Neb., in a fit of temporary insanity Christmas evening, killed her three children and then killed herself.

The whole family of Joseph Seidlote, a car painter at Cincinnati, O., consisting of himself, wife and son, were poisoned to death Friday, by eating canned green peas.

Schooner Rough Diamond from Salmon River for St. John is said to have been lost at sea with all on board. George Crane was Captain.

The hearing in the case of ex-Alderman McQuade for a new trial, before Justice Pratt of Brooklyn, is further postponed until Thursday.

Masked street car strikers in San Francisco attacked several cars recently, and a fight with authorities followed. Two men were injured and several arrests were made.

At 3 o'clock Tuesday morning Ellen Buckley, nineteen years old, fell from a window in the second story of her house on Federal street, Boston, and was so badly injured that she died in a few minutes.

Music hall and the opera house of Cheboggin, Michigan, were burned Wednesday night. The jail in the rear of the City hall contained two prisoners, both of whom were burned to death.

General Master Workman Powderly has manfully put himself on record against using the organization of Knights of Labor to express sympathy for the Anarchists in any of their nefarious aims and purposes.

Dexter E. Fay, son of a well-known wealthy Bostonian, was arrested in Milwaukee, Wis., on Tuesday, and will be taken to Cincinati, O., charged with several robberies. His father died recently in New York in ignorance of his son's criminal career.

Robert J. Calladine, 17 years old, employed as a stamper in the city distribution department of the post office at Chicago, was arrested Wednesday night by Inspector Bassett for robbing the mails. Calladine has been suspected for several months.

The trial of Professor Smyth, for alleged departure from the creed of Andover Theological Seminary, was begun in Boston, on Tuesday. As the hearing progresses, it will furnish interesting matter for all interested in theological discussions.

Seventy or eighty little boys and girls, mostly the children of people in official life, were entertained at a Christmas Eve party by Secretary and Mrs. Whitney in Washington. There was a Christmas tree, and all the children had a present.

During a coasting carnival at North Pownal, Vt., Tuesday night of last week, two boys were fatally hurt and others seriously injured. Bobs came together in a ravine at the foot of two hills with a force that was fearful.

Hogs are dying in large numbers in the southern part of Cerro Gordo county, Iowa, with what seems to be a disease of the lungs. Some drop dead instantly, while others linger several days, refusing to eat or drink anything. Some farmers have lost thus an entire herd.

Geo. Wilsey, while on his death-bed at White Oaks, Mass., has confessed to the murder of Hilliard Walker of North Andover, some fifteen years ago. He says he knocked him down and pounded him to death, and he and his companion concealed the body.

The Children's Christmas Club at Washington, composed of prominent charitable people, Tuesday gave the poor children of the District a bountiful dinner, and afterwards distributed toys and candy among them. The East Washington Christmas Club did similar good work for about 600 little children on Capitol Hill.

The report of the board of managers of the National Home for disabled volunteer soldiers which was laid before the House, says that the average number of inmates during the last fiscal year was 8,946, against 8,593 for the preceding year, an increase of 11 13 per cent. This ratio of increase is said to be likely to continue for a decade to come. The survivors of the war are growing old.

At Minneapolis, at ten o'clock Wednesday evening, a man robbed the large jewelry store of J. R. Elliot of $6000 worth of jewelry, diamonds, etc., while his comrades' pistols kept the crowds at bay. The streets were unusually full and scarcely a policeman was looking at the display in Elliot's windows at the time of the robbery. Several policemen were within half a block of the scene, but could not get there in time to apprehend the robbers.

Six tons of molten steel exploded at Carnegie's steel works at Homestead, Pa., Wednesday, fatally injuring four employés. The ladle containing the molten metal was being swung from the smelting furnace to the ingot mold when the crane broke and the ladle dropped. The metal poured into the building, and the explosion followed, scattering hot fragments over the mill. All the workmen escaped but the four mentioned.

The publishers of Gen. Logan's book, in New York, "The Great Conspiracy," received a letter Tuesday, from H. E. Taylor, private and confidential secretary of Gen. Logan, in which he says, the receipts from the sale of that book will be the only legacy left to Mrs. Logan, and suggesting that if this fact could be made known to the public, "the patriotic impulses of a grateful people might through this channel place her beyond want. Knowing Mrs. Logan's circumstances as well as I do," adds the confidential secretary, "may I beg of you to take immediate steps to place this information before the public."

Fire at six o'clock Tuesday morning destroyed the Mississippi transportation steamer R. S. Hayes and four barges, and the Anchor line steamer City of Natchez, while lying at the bank at Cairo, Ill. The fire is supposed to have originated in the cabin of the Hayes. It soon enveloped the whole boat, burning her to the water's edge. The fire then spread to the City of Natchez, lying just below, and in a few moments she too was a mass of flames. The barges alongside of the Hayes, loaded with cotton, soda, ash and sundries, also took fire and were entirely destroyed. Nothing but wrecks of the burned hulls remained.

The Manufacturers' Record prints figures showing that 1886 has been in many respects the most remarkable year the South has ever known in industrial progress. The amount of capital, including the capital stock of incorporated companies, represented by new manufacturing and mining enterprises organized or chartered during the year, with the enlargement of old plants and the rebuilding of mills, aggregate $129,226,000 against $66,812,000 in 1885. The Iron interests have attracted the greatest share of attention, and some gigantic enterprises have been organized, and are now building furnaces. Many other manufacturing and industrial interests have also developed wonderfully.

The men supposed to have committed the robbery of the Adams express car and the St. Louis and San Francisco road on the night of October 25th, of $55,000 to $60,000, have been arrested. The men captured are Frederick Wilrock, who is the author of the "Jim Cummings" letters, and who is claimed to be the man who perpetrated the robbery; W. W. Haight, an employé of the express company, who is supposed to have aided in planning the robbery, from his knowledge of the railroad "run;" Thomas Weaver, a Chicago laundryman, who was with Wilrock before and after the robbery, and divided the money and mailed the "Jim Cummings" letters. The detectives have found about $15,000 of the stolen booty and estimate that from $40,000 to $45,000 is still unaccounted for. The detectives claim to have worked up the case from the "Jim Cummings" letters written to a St. Louis paper. It is not yet decided whether Fotheringham, the express messenger, was an accomplice in the crime.

The bright, sparkling youths' publication, the *Golden Days*, published by James Elverson, Philadelphia, still improves, if the thing is possible, and keeps pace with the times, in furnishing its readers with the purest and best literature. It aims to feed the minds of the young with thoughts that shall be helpful in character building, and for this Mr. Elverson should have the thanks of the friends of the rising generation.

Maine Agricultural News.

—At the adjourned meeting of the North Franklin Agricultural Society D. W. Shepard was elected trustee in place of C. M. Davis resigned.

—Mrs. C. W. Keyes and S. R. Leland, Esq., have accepted invitations to read papers at the meeting of the Maine Pomeological Society in Farmington, in February next. Mrs. Keyes' subject will be "The Value of a Knowledge of the Natural Sciences to the Farmer," and Mr. Leland's subject "Fruit Raising."

—Forest Grange of Lee, at its annual meeting, elected the following officers:

Master—S. Bagley.
Overseer—J. Burk.
Lecturer—C. H. Burk.
Secretary—J. B. Ludden.
Assistant Secretary—D. Bartlett.
Chapiain—S. Bean.
Treasurer—L. Cobb.
Secretary—Vezzie Merrill.
Gate Keeper—S. R. Ludden.
Pomona—Mrs. S. Bean.
Flora—Mrs. C. H. Burk.
Ceres—Lizzie Bagley.
Lady Assistant Steward—Mary Bartlett.
Organist—Emmie Lane.
Chorister—A. K. Lewis.
Librarian—C. E. Ludden.

This Grange has eighty-six members in good standing, a hall, store, and stable connected, an organ, dishes, etc., also a library of two hundred volumes.

—KENNEBEC COUNTY POMONA GRANGE. The annual meeting of this Grange will be held at Winthrop Grange Hall, Wednesday, Jan. 5th, 1887, beginning at 10 o'clock. Hearing reports and the election of officers for the ensuing year will be the principal business of the session. Ample arrangements for the entertainment of visitors have been made, and a full meeting is looked for.

L. K. LITCHFIELD, *Sec'y.*

—The apple maggot has not yet appeared in Surry or Blue Hill. I do not think it had been found in Orland. Will those who are acquainted with its habits tell us what varieties of apples are not injured by it? Car window worms do much damage here; the Baldwin is injured so much by it that it is not a profitable kind to grow here. Will some of your readers who grow the Blue Pearmain tell us all about it? Some say it is late coming into bearing and that it is a light bearer. W. S. GREENE.

Surry, Dec. 27.

—Officers of Danville Junction Grange, No. 65, for 1887:

Master—John A. Hicks.
Overseer—Geo. W. Hackett.
Lecturer—James A. Pike.
Steward—Javin C. Rowe.
Assistant Steward—Willis A. Arris.
Chaplain—Charles Sackpole.
Treasurer—D. J. Rowe.
Secretary—James L. Martin.
Gate Keeper—D. E. Goss.
Ceres—Ada E. Hicks.
Pomona—Tamma Rowe.
Flora—Jane L. Hackett.
Lady Assistant Steward—Loann Arris.

—At a regular meeting of the Pine Grove Grange, Brewer, held Monday eve, December 20, the following officers were chosen:

Master—Henry Wright.
Overseer—Luther Pierce.
Lecturer—Samuel Deering.
Steward—Galon Kingsbury.
Assistant Steward—Frank Farrington.
Chapiain—Joseph D. French.
Treasurer—Ira Dole.
Secretary—Annie P. Dole.
Gate Keeper—Allen Dole.
Pomona—Mrs. B. Dole.
Flora—Mrs. N. French.
Ceres—Mrs. M. Sommers.
Lady Assistant Steward—Miss Nettie Crawford.

—Officers Minot Centre Grange:

Master—M. P. Downing.
Overseer—W. H. Davis.
Lecturer—F. M. Woodman.
Secretary—C. H. Martin.
Treasurer—M. Hodge.
Chaplain—S. W. Shaw.
Steward—Henry Jackson.
Ceres—Mrs. F. M. Woodman.
Pomona—Mrs. Willard Davis.
Flora—Mrs. A. Richard.
Assistant Steward—B. R. Durgin.
Lady Assistant Steward—Miss Nettie Davis.
Gate Keeper—Walter Durgin.

—The annual meeting of the Sagadahoc Agricultural Society, to elect officers and transact any other necessary business, will occur Wednesday, January 12th, in the Municipal Court room, Brunswick, at 10 o'clock A. M.

—The Winthrop Dairying Association held its annual meeting at the factory Saturday afternoon, and elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

President—N. R. Pike.
Secretary—Elliott Wood.
Treasurer—Levi Jones.
Directors—R. Alden, A. D. King, J. E. Brainard, Sumner Packard.

The association is in a favorable condition.

The Penobscot Farmers' Club.

The last meeting of the Penobscot Farmers' Club was held at the Fuller schoolhouse in Bangor, on Saturday the 11th inst. The weather was pleasant and the attendance large. Meeting was called to order by President A. G. Kent. On stating the question for discussion, "What are the best methods of disposing of our surplus farm products?" the president called on Hebron Luce, E-q., to open the discussion.

Mr. Luce—This is a question of more importance to farmers than any other, for the farmer that has the best faculty to make good use of the surplus products of their farms are usually the prosperous ones. But this thing must be borne in mind by all, that it is the supply and demand that governs the price of all our farm products, and the more hands that it passes through before it reaches the consumer, the higher the cheese and butter and the smaller the producer gets. So far as possible the farmer should sell directly to the consumer. One great want of the farmer is reliable weekly reports of our markets, that they may know what the value of their products are, then we would know what the supply in the country was, and what to sell for, and thereby realize a fair price for our products.

H. J. Hunt—I consider that the middle men, as they are called, are an advantage to the farmers, for they make a competition for our surplus products, and I think in many cases that it will pay the farmer better to work his farm, or look after his help and sell to middle men, than it would be to spend his time in peddling his products, for it will take the most of his time which ought to be spent in looking after his affairs on the farm. If the farmer expects to get big prices he must get his products to the consumer in the cheapest way.

A. N. Lufkin—By the statement of the question, it is the surplus of our farm crops that are to be disposed of, and to dispose of them to the best advantage it is necessary to have a knowledge of the condition of the various markets, and produce such crops next year for the market as are a drug this year, for many of those that are not in demand this year will be next. As labor has become so divided, I consider that the middle men are a necessity.

Mr. Green—It appears to me that the farmer, to be successful, should make all his products that he can, and put on the market as attractive as possible, and when an article will attract the eye with our products, there is not any trouble in finding a ready market at fair prices.

Mr. J. O. Frenchs, I find that there are two classes of middle men, and one of them will cheat every farmer that they trade with, if they can, for they are in league with each other, for when one makes an offer for any kind of farm produce, the others are not likely to give any more; but I consider the regular traders are an advantage to the farmer.

Mr. Mills—We manufacture some kinds of farm products to sell best. We should always watch the markets and never offer any of our products for sale when there is not a demand for them. I never sell my hay when it is busy, and sometimes I have had to keep it two or three years before I could get my price, but if they are perishable they must be sold, but it is generally the case that there is some time in the year that they will bring a fair price.

Mr. Tibbetts—I think that so far as we can, we should keep our farm products until they will sell for a fair price, but there are many farmers who cannot do it, for many times it is necessary for them to raise an amount of money, and they are compelled to sell off the products of the farm to raise it, at whatever the market price is.

Pres. Kent—I have the best success in disposing of my surplus products when I have sold to the traders, for in peddling, it requires too much of my time that will give me more pay on my farm; then we should be very particular and put nothing that is not first class, and always be sure that every article is full weight and measure, for if they are short in either it will injure our reputation. Then always, so far as possible, keep posted on the market prices.

Wm. George—If I was going to point out the best method of disposing of our farm products, I should say feed the most of them on the farm; but if we have got to make out money, and have hay or other products to get it out of, I have got to sell for the market price, for I can't keep it for a rise; and if I had a crop that was a drug in the market this year, I would put in the same crop next.

C. H. Dale—I can't give those present any information as to what is the best method of disposing of their surplus crops, for I came to learn of my older brother farmers. Some advocate keeping their crops until there is a rise, and wait for the best prices, but I think that a majority of the farmers have to dispose of their crops as soon as possible, and our perishable products have to be sold at certain times or they are sold at a sacrifice. We ought to have the market reports weekly, then the farmer could take the advantage of the market.

The discussion was continued by E. H. Gregory, Mr. Hill, H. K. Robinson, J. H. Comins and other gentlemen. The next meeting of the club will be held at the Town Hall in Holden, on Saturday, Jan. 1st, 10 A. M.

Editor's Table.

The sales of *The Century Magazine* have gone up over 30,000 copies in six weeks, since beginning the Life of Lincoln. A second edition of December was be issued on the 15th. A veteran New York publisher predicts that the permanent edition of the magazine will go beyond the 300,000 before the completion of the Lincoln history. The January installment is said by the editors to be of most surpassing interest occupies thirty pages of the magazine, and treats of Mr. Lincoln's settlement in Springfield; his practice of law in that city; the Harrison campaign; Lincoln's marriage; his friendship with the Speeds of Kentucky; the Shield's duel; and the campaign of 1844. The illustrations are numerous. Pictures are given of the house where Lincoln was married, also the house where he lived after his marriage, etc., etc.

Harper's Magazine for January, furnishes a generous installment of the novel attractions promised in its prospectus for the coming year in four strong and fresh contributions—the first part of Sir Edward Reed's "Continental Navies," the commencement of the series of Southern articles in Charles Dudley Warner's "New Orleans," Miller's "Summer Campaign with the Cossacks," starting the new series of Eastern Papers, and the initial installment of Kathleen O'Meara's Russian novel, "Nara, va." Besides these special features the number contains a double installment of Blackmore's "Springhaven," the continuation of Roe's "Home Acre," a capital story by R. M. Johnston, "A Note on Impressionist Painting" by Theodore Child, several short poems, and the richly laden departments.

THE MAGAZINE OF ART FOR JANUARY. The *Magazine of Art* for January is a worthy follower of the beautiful December number of the magazine. The frontispiece, "Vandora" is a striking study in sanguine. The place of honor is given to Mr. Charles de Kay's account of "Movements in American Art," which deals particularly with the very interesting collection of Mr. Thomas B. Clarke. This gentleman, be it known, devotes his time, money and taste to the collection of American paintings exclusively, and the investment has proved as good a pecuniary one as he could have desired, while at the same time it has started other collectors in the same direction. Excellent reproductions are given through the text of this article of paintings by F. S. Church, Thomas Eakins, H. Siddons Mowbray, and Gilbert Gaul. This paper is followed by other papers of great merit. Cassell & Company, Limited, New York, 35 cents a number, $3.50 a year in advance.

IN MEMORIAM. Out of the realms of the unreal, where flitting shadows of earth-life deceive the keenest vision, into the pure etherial of the true and real, where the "Lord God giveth them light," and where the heart's secrets are an open book, has passed Mr. Elbridge G. Peaslee, a prominent citizen of Alna, well known to every one in Lincoln county, and the southern part of the State. He was visiting in Boston at his daughter's, Mrs. Georgia A. Woodbridge, where he was suddenly stricken with pneumonia, and survived but five days from the first attack. The best medical aid in Boston was summoned, and the most assiduous attention of family and friends were lavished upon him—nothing being left undone to check the course of the fell destroyer, but to no purpose. He suffered but little from the first, and passed away as gently as a babe falling asleep, Wednesday night, Dec. 22d, at 10.30 o'clock. The body was embalmed and brought home, Saturday, Dec. 25th. Services at the home of his daughter, 161 Warren Ave., Boston, were conducted by Rev. Dr. Moxom of the Commonwealth Ave. Baptist church. Formal burial services at his home in Alna, Sunday, Dec. 26th, conducted by Rev. Nelson Pierce, Alna Baptist church.

During his entire sickness he showed unusual patience and unmistakable evidence of being sustained by the comforting whisperings of a loving savior; and even while oblivious to what was passing before his natural vision, he seemed in communion with the unseen world. Not long before he passed away, during a lucid interval, he took the hand of son and daughter and offered thanksgiving and prayer. His last words were, "I am now going over to Canaan's happy shore; I can see those waiting me who have gone before. O, God, may those of mine who are to follow me, meet me there. The last enemy is death, and is overcome."

Mr. Peaslee was a man of warm, impulsive heart and nervous temperament, positive in his impressions and tenacious sometimes to a fault, but upon every great question of the day he was always found arrayed on the side of right, and ready to fight to sustain it. He always gave who evinced a keen interest in the advancement of the cause of religion, he had professedly enlisted with the visible army of believers but a few years. His eyes are now closed to the scenes of earthly strife and toil. His hands are folded that have laid down their last burden. His steps, no longer uncertain, will be guided by a greater light, and the memory of his many acts of kindness will live among us, until we too, shall pass on to meet him.

NEW HARBOR ITEMS. New Harbor has very beautiful natural scenery, and is destined to take high rank as a summer resort. It has a fine harbor, located about two and one-half miles from the farmer at Pemaquid point. A number of summer cottages were erected near the point the past spring. About one-fourth mile west of the Harbor is a small village, consisting of several stores, one of the finest churches in the town, and a fine school house. A number of dwelling houses were erected here the past summer. There are several vessels owned here, which are engaged in fishing and the coasting trade. As regards occupations, fishing is the principal one; small boat fishing is carried on here more extensively than in any other place on the coast of Maine. Agriculture is carried on to some extent. It has about six hundred inhabitants. F.

The Markets.

Brighton Cattle Market.

BOSTON, TUESDAY, Dec. 28.

Amount of live stock at market—Cattle 408, Sheep and lambs 3619, Swine 21,420, Horses 144, number of Western Cattle 343, Northern Cattle, 65.

Prices of Beef Cattle per 100 lbs. live weight—Extra quality $5 12½@5 75; first quality $4 62½ @ 5 00 second quality $4 12½ @ 4 50; third quality $3 50@4 00 poorest grades of coarse Oxen, Bulls, &c., $3@3 87½.

Brighton Hides 8c. per lb.
Brighton Tallow 3c. per lb.
Country Hides 7c. per lb.
Country Tallow 2½@2¾c. per lb.
Calf Skins 9@9½c. per lb.
Lamb Skins 85@$1.40 each.
Dairy Skins 25@50c. each.

SALES OF CATTLE.

By Number.	lbs live wt.	Live Average wt.
A. N. Monroe	15	4 45	1310
do	18	5 30	1573
do	16	5 35	1540
do	15	5 10	1480
do	18	5 00	1455
do	16	4 80	1315
Farrell & McFlynn	14	4 65	1260
do	10	4 70	1150
do	6	4 62½	1100
do	5	4 50	1050
do	2	4 62½	1100

The trade opened dull and inactive, with a light supply of Western Cattle in market for sale. Prices have not varied any to speak of from those noted one week ago. There were but a few buyers around the yards, and the supply although very light, was full as large as the demands require, butchers' Cattle ranging from $4 25@5 30 per 100 lbs. live weight. Those suitable for the export trade are costing fully up to our highest quotations for the best lots.

Swine—Western Fat Hogs are costing from 5½@5¼c. per lb. live weight landed at the slaughter houses. In our number we give all the sales of Hogs brought in over the several railroads for the week, all being owned by butchers.

Sheep and Lambs—Those from the West were all owned by butchers, and taken direct to the slaughter houses from the cars, costing from 4@9¾ per lb., live weight.

Report of Union Stock Market.

[Specially Reported for the Maine Farmer.]

WATERTOWN, Dec. 28, 1886.

Names of Drovers.	No. Cattle.	Sheep.	Veals.
Libby & Merrill,	83	00	10
F. H. Cooledge & Son,	29	00	37
Wells & Richardson,	2	339	00
S. H. Wardwell,	30	00	5
P. W. Thompson & Son,	28	100	2
R. Eldridge,	11	00	2
R. W. Brown,	20	00	2
Libby & Libby,	10	00	3
J. H. Fogg,	18	00	8
H. C. Arnold & Co.,	43	00	3
I. C. Libby,	43	178	22
B. W. Harriman,	10	00	2

A GLOOMY OUTLOOK.

No bright spot to refer to in the market at Union Stock Yards to-day; not many cattle or sheep for sale; a correspondingly small number of buyers in attendance, those present looking glum and cold. Prices on all kind of stock remain unchanged, except thin cows and springers which are less in request, and some lower. As the holidays are over, the milkmen settle down on to winter prices which our Maine farmers would call low. These Massachusetts milk men deliver their milk to the nearest station, at 28 cts. per can, of eight quarts and one pint, a little over 3 cts. per quart. Now when it is taken into account, that a cow shrinks about $25 in changing her from a new milch cow to a beef cow, figures would corroborate the idea that they are driving a hard trade.

SALES.

Libby & Merrill sold 10 steers averaging 900 lbs., at 3½ cents; one big springer girthing 7 ft., at 6 cts. live, that weighed 1480 lbs. F. H. Cooledge sold 20 veal calves at 6¾ cts. live weight, averaging 125 lbs. each. Wells & Richardson sold 339 common sheep at 3½ cts. live weight, averaging 70 lbs. S. H. Wardwell sold working oxen at 4 to 4½ cts. live weight. Coffin & Libby sold 3 springers, good ones, at $40 each. B. W. Harriman sold two oxen at 4 cts. live weight, that weighed 3100. I. C. Libby sold a fancy, well fed lot of sheep and lambs at 5½ cts. live weight, that averaged to weigh 85 lbs.; 13 springers and new milkers, the buyer's choice out of 40 head, at $600 the lot. Best oxen bring 7 cts. dressed weight or 5 cts. live weight.

REMARKS.

Hard times and low prices is the cry here to-day. If we sell our stock at a low price one consolation is, all other classes of stock except horses are low, as are all the necessaries of life and manufactured articles. Because low prices prevail the level-headed farmer will not jump out of cattle business, or on the spur of the moment change over into sheep or horse business. The latter we consider the poorest paying and the most hazardous of all kinds of live stock, yet our farmers hold all their horses and colts if they have to sacrifice on their hay and grain. Cumbing and delaine fleeces are steady, and sales of No. I combing have been made at 38@39c, and fine delaine at 35@37c per lb. Territory wool is active, and sales of medium have been at 36@36½c. Of the 1886 clip of Texas wool is quiet. California wool is not wanted at present prices. Oregon wools have been selling at 16@25c, as to quality. Pulled wools are in active demand, with sales of choice Eastern supers at 40@45c, common to good supers at 30@35c, extra pulled at 30@32c, and combing pulled at 32@34

Poetry.

The Two Glasses.

There sat two glasses, filled to the brim,
On a rich man's table, rim to rim.
One was ruddy and red as blood,
And one as clear as the crystal flood.

Said the glass of wine to the paler brother,
"Let us tell the tales of the past to each other.
"I can tell of banquet, and revel, and mirth,
And the proudest and grandest souls on earth
Fell under my touch as though struck by blight
Where I was a king, for I ruled in might.
From the heads of kings I have torn the crowns;
From the heights of fame I have hurled men down.
I have blasted many an honored name;
I have taken virtue and given shame.
I have tempted youth with a sip, a taste,
That has made his future a barren waste.
Far greater than a king am I,
Or than any army beneath the sky.

"I have made the arm of the driver fail,
And sent the train from the iron rail.
I have made good ships go down at sea,
And the shrieks of the lost were sweet to me,
For they said, behold how great you be.
Fame, strength, wealth, genius, before you fall,
For your might and power are over all."
"Ho! Ho! pale brother," laughed the wine,
"Can you boast of deeds as great as mine?"

Said the water glass, "I cannot boast
Of a king dethroned, or a murdered host,
But I can tell of a heart once sad,
By my crystal drops made light and glad—
Of thirsts I've quenched, of brows I've laved,
Of hands I've cooled, and souls I've saved;
I've leaped through the valley, dashed down the mountain,
Flowed in the river and played in the fountain,
Slept in the sunshine and stepped from the sky,
And everywhere gladdened the landscape and eye.

I have eased the hot forehead of fever and pain,
I have made the parched meadows grow fertile with grain.
I can tell of the powerful wheel of the mill
That ground out flour and turned at my will;
I can tell of manhood debased by rum,
That I lifted up and crowned anew.
I cheer, I help, I strengthen and aid;
I gladden the heart of man and maid;
I set the wine chain captive free,
And all are better for knowing me."

These are the tales they told each other—
The glass of wine and its pale brother—
As they sat together filled to the brim,
On the rich man's table rim to rim.

Our Story Teller.

A PAYMASTER'S ADVENTURE.

I had been waiting a week at Jefferson for instructions from Washington. I had written for permission to go to New Orleans, as I had relatives there with whom I wished to pass the winter; but at the end of the week my hopes were all nipped in the bud by the following missive:

Major—You will proceed at once to Fort Stetson; thence with all possible dispatch to Fort Carson; and thence to Fort Kearney, at which posts you will pay off the enrolled men and officers, and also settle all duly authenticated bills against the office on account of provisions, forage, camp and garrison stores, etc.

It is particularly requested that you will be careful and exact in your return of estimates for the coming winter months.

Capt. Goodwin will detail for you such escort as you may require.

I have the honor to be, etc.,

G. P. BOWMAN, D. P. M. G.
Major and Paymaster, U. S. A.

To G. S. COCHRANE.

This did not reach me by the hands of Capt. Goodwin, however, whom I should have been happy to meet; but by the hands of Sergeant James Connover, who came with six men under his command, to escort me on my way, if I deemed such escort sufficient. Goodwin, who was sick with fever and ague, wrote by the hand of his clerk:

"I would send you more men; but really I think more would be in your way. There are no Indians on the trail between Jefferson and Stetson; and certainly this escort is sufficient against any ordinary highway interpolation. Sergeant Connover is not a very brilliant man; nor is he over and above sociable; but I have found him true as steel; and the privates—members of my own company—whom I send with him, you can rely on in any emergency. Only—they have the common weakness. Don't give them too free a run at the whiskey bottle. They won't break faith with you to get it; but, if allowed full sway, they might get a drop too much for your own comfort."

And he wrote about other matters, but nothing more of his men.

After reading the letter I raised my eyes and met the gaze of the sergeant, who stood, with his cap in his hand, on the opposite side of the small table. He started when I looked up, and I thought he was ashamed of having been caught staring at me so fixedly. But the flush quickly left his face, and he inclined his head another way.

He was a man of medium size, very heavily built, and evidently very muscular. In short, he was made for a fighter, and one of those valuable fighters who possess stubborn will and dogged resolution, rather than hot and impetuous pugnacity. He was not a man to be ever in a hurry; but a man who, when fairly aroused, is to be feared. He was not far from five and forty years of age, and the stripes upon his forearm showed that he had served four full terms of enlistment previous to the present.

"Well, sergeant," I said, as pleasantly as possible, "Captain Goodwin gives such an account of you that I already feel thankful that I am to have your company; and I trust you will have no reason to complain of me."

He returned my look; but not a smile warmed the chilly gloom of his brown face, nor was there even a gleam of good feeling to break up the hard crust of dogged reserve, but with an effort he ducked his head and said:

"I'll try, sir, to do the best I can."

I could very near showing my dislike of this kind of behavior; but remembering what Goodwin had written, I concluded to take that fellow for what he was and make the best of him. However, perhaps this hard crust might break under the influence of acquaintance.

"All right," I said. "We can none of us more than try. We've a tramp of several days before us, and I hope they may be pleasant ones."

"Certainly," Connover responded.

There was a slight relief in the tone, and I took hope.

I went out with the sergeant and found the six men on the piazza standing at ease under arms. They were really fine looking fellows and answered respectively to the names: Smith, Adams, Mealy, Oesau, Van Wirt and Connolly. Smith was a Yankee; Adams was an Englishman, and had been in the Queen's service as a dragoon; Mealy and Connolly were Irishmen; Oesau was a Dutchman, and Van Wirt was a German. A wide range of nationality for so small a squad, but a fair sample of our standing army, nevertheless; and furthermore, six men of one nation could not have been more brotherly than were these six. Unlike their sergeant, they were free and pleasant, and seemed to be thankful for the privilege of taking a forest tramp with me; while I, in turn, gave them to understand that I would do all I could to make them comfortable. The squad had come with good horses, so the only preparations I had to make for the start were to get my own horses ready and draw my money.

My estimates had been to the amount of $35,000, and this I must take in gold. I went to the bank with the sergeant and three of the men, and got the money, which I took away in three saddle-bags, weighing about 40 pounds each; but at the hotel I packed the gold in a sort of pannier saddle, a contrivance which I had invented myself, and which I found to pack anywhere from one to four hundred pounds of gold that it would neither sway nor jingle. In short, a horse could bear in this saddle-pack a burden of dead weight almost as easily as he could bear a human rider. And I had a horse on purpose for the work—one that I had used for several years, and that understood his duty as though it had all been crammed out to his mind.

Bright and early on a clear, cool October morning, we set forth from Jefferson with three days' rations in our haversacks; for Stetson was a hundred and twenty miles away, and we would not have time on the trip within the time indicated. I rode in advance—not because I desired it, but because the others were inclined to fall to the rear.

We were passing over a narrow bridge just on the outskirts of Jefferson, when we met two men and two boys driving before them a drove of cattle. I had met and gone clear of the cattle without thinking of, and was thinking how I would like to have one of the fatter bullocks along with me, when an exclamation of anger arrested my attention, and on turning in my saddle, I discovered one of the men—a big, burly, surly some thing—had attacked the sergeant's horse. It had been quickly done—a frisk—a leap—a lunge of the great curving horns at the horse's side—the rearing of the latter, and the consequent unseating of the sergeant.

When Connover had regained his feet, the frolicsome bullock was away from his reach; but not so the incensed drover. The two men were near together and directly by his side as he grasped his sword hilt and turned upon them. I did not think Connover would harm them; but they were terribly frightened, nevertheless—and the younger of of the two, who was a stout, fair looking fellow, was the first to speak an intelligent word—(the sergeant had uttered one or two oaths).

"Excuse me, my good friend. I am sorry—truly sorry for this mishap; but I assure you it was no fault of ours."

As Sergeant Connovan then stood, his face was turned very nearly toward me, so that I caught nearly every line and shade of expression upon his features. He had been terribly shaken, and was exceeding wrathful; but his wrath was a greater part was made up of chagrin at being unhorsed in so ridiculous a manner than from a mere attack of the bullock. A few seconds he glared into the face of the man who had spoken to him, and then, prefacing his remark with an oath of condemnation, he exclaimed:

"——! If you're a God, ye'd better thank Him that Jem. Connover don't owe ye much of a grudge!"

The man muttered something and passed on to attend to his cattle, while sergeant placed his foot in his stirrups, and as he did so he looked at me.

Our eyes met, and I saw him change color and start, as though he had done some guilty thing in thus looking into the face of his superior officer. I smiled and nodded, and in a pleasant way remarked:

"All's well that ends well, sergeant."

He looked at me as though the proposition might be disputed, but presently, with a forced smile he returned:

"Aye, aye—that's so!" And the reply was emphatic, as though his decision were a matter of moment.

I rode on, the picture of Connover's passage with the drover occupying my mind.

Before this I had fancied that there was something familiar in the sergeant's face and in his general tone and bearing. He might be the man who swore, four years ago, at Snelling, that he had been underpaid; or he might be the man who had been accidentally overpaid at Columbus two years before, and who had come forward of his own accord and made restitution.

"If ye've got a God, ye'd better thank Him that Jem. Connover don't owe ye much of a grudge."

Why did those words ring in my ears and echo through my whole being?

Twenty times during that day I looked upon my sergeant when he did not know it, and studied his face; and each effort seemed to bring the last connection nearer, without quite giving it into my hands. He seemed to know that I had begun to feel an interest in his antecedents, and toward the latter part of the day he behaved himself more as the officer of an escort ought. He asked me how I would like to have the guard disposed, and very modestly gave me to understand that any service he could be held as laws by them. I took this for what it was worth, and I knew very well what it meant. There was an old association which he would not have raked up.

That night found us at the foot of Brock's mountain, and at the extreme verge of civilization in that direction. Beyond here we were to take the old government supply road—a mere blazed path—with which Connover and two of his men were perfectly familiar; and we would not strike another settlement until near to Stetson.

It was my plan when travelling thus to make my pannier saddle the substratum of my pillow, with a pair of good revolvers in such position that they could be grasped upon the instant. And I may here remark that I am naturally a sound sleeper, yet the presence of money under my care and loaded pistols at my hand will render me so sensitive to any disturbing cause that the movement of a mouse would arouse me. Of course the thought of being robbed occurred to me, but not with anything like fear, or even seriousness, for I had not yet dreamed that a man of my escort could have entertained such a plan and I had no idea that any other power I was likely to meet could lay hold upon it. On this night I lay down as usual, having spread my tent to the leeward of a huge boulder, where I was completely sheltered, while the three tents in which my escort slept were set up directly before me.

I went to sleep thinking of Sergeant James Connover, and it must have been immediately after my waking senses left me that my dream senses took up the thread, and they took it up on some purpose. Hampered with no ordinary routine, or system, of circumlocution, bothered with no searching connecting links or correlative circumstances, they went back over the years with a leap, and drew a picture for me as vivid and distinct as the original event had been just eighteen years before.

I was at Fort Snelling, a second lieutenant of engineers, engaged in surveying government lands, laying out roads and so on, and among those detailed to assist me was a private of the name of James Connover. He got drunk while at work, but when I reprimanded him he used language so offensive and foul that I could not pass it by. In fact, if I had been armed at the time I should have shot him, for his course was such as to entirely place himself beyond the reach of forbearance. I reported him and he was flogged—severely flogged—as the times were at that period. But he bore a grudge toward me, though. Aye—while his back was bleeding and smarting he hissed into my ears: "If ye've got a God, be sure to Him, Jem. Connover swears that he don't give over this grudge till one of us dies!"

I started out from my sleep and sat up. It had been a dream, and yet not all a dream. All the while the words had been repeated before me, I had been conscious that I lay there in my tent under the old bowsider of the Brock. I had sank into a state where my mind was free to follow its own course, taking the single fact of James Connover, for a point of departure, and thence running backward until he was met again.

I remembered all now. Yes. This was the man, who, 18 years before, had cursed and swore and reviled me, and threatened all manner of violence; and his only provocation had been that I threatened to have him punished if he ever got drunk again while on duty with me. To be sure, he was under the influence of liquor at the time; but not so far gone but that he knew very well what he was doing, because, after reaching the fort on our return, he had made his boast that he had given the "Shoulder-pop" (so he called me) a stomach full to carry off, and he didn't believe I would dare to report him. But I did report him, and I gave his speech in full, and the result was the old major ordered a court-martial, out from the sentence of which the man came with a hundred lashes.

And there was another result: James Connover was never guilty of a like offence again; but on the contrary, he saw very plainly that the service would very quickly go to rack and ruin if such conduct as he had been guilty of could be permitted or even lightly treated; and thenceforward he became a better man, and soon reaped the benefit thereof. But he could not forgive me. Twice he swore to me that he would carry that grudge against me while we both lived; and he told me that it was a deadly grudge. "I'll never forget it?" he said, the last time. "I shall carry them marks on my back to my grave, and——you! I hope you may die before I do!" Those were his words, spoken while I was stepping on board a steamer at St. Louis; and I knew by their plainly meant that he would keep me to die if he ever got the chance.

And here I was with my old enemy for an escort. From that far-gone time to the present, I had never seen nor heard of the man, and he had long ago passed entirely from my mind. Connover is a common name in the army; or at least, I had happened to hit quite a number of enlisted men of that name, so I had not connected the stout, dark-browed, stocky sergeant, with the fair-faced, lithe and youthful soldier who had crossed my path at Snelling.

A hasty review of the whole thing brought me to rather an unpleasant understanding of the present case. That James Connover still bore the old grudge was very evident, and it was equally evident that he meant to settle the account between us on this trip. I could not think there in the tent, it was too near a space. I had arisen, and was upon the point of passing out, with my pistol in my hand, when I heard a stealthy footstep at the entrance. Without noise I sprang back a few feet corner and there crouched down upon my saddle.

I had scarcely gained the position when the flap was drawn aside and a man looked in. Ah! just beyond the face of the interloper was an open cut on the side of the mountain, and I caught his profile against a patch of clear sky. It was the hard, bronzed face of James Connover!

I held my pistol for an instant use, expecting every moment to see him leap to the spread blankets. But he was very moderate. He put his head further in, and seemed puzzled. It was, of course, very dark in there, but yet he could probably see that the bed did not look as though there was a man in it. Once I raised my pistol, full sure that the man was after my life, and fearful that if I threw a chance away he might get the better of me; but I did not fire. Something seemed to whisper in my ear: "Hold on! You've hit him once. Be sure you're in danger before you hit him again!" and I lowered my pistol and watched. Presently:

"Major!" came from his lips, carefully but earnestly. "Major!—Major Cochrane!"

There was something in the tone of that voice that gave me heart. It was not imploring, prayerful tone, as of one who has a great favor to ask. I determined to answer him; but be sure I kept my pistol ready at hand.

With a yawn, as though just startled from sleep, I returned:

"A-a-h! Hello! who's here?"

"Sh!—Down here! It's me, major—Sergeant Connover. I was passing round back of your tent and thought I heard ye talking with yerself. So, thinking ye'd be awake, and having something that I wanted particularly to say, I made bold to come around and look in. The fact is, major—I couldn't sleep till I'd set matters right."

By this time the fellow had turned so that I could see that he had no weapon with him, and I began to fear that I had been a little too fearful. However, I got up and stepped out into the center of the tented area, and then said:

"Go ahead, sergeant, I'm all attention."

Without further preliminaries he went on:

"Of course you know me?"

"I think I have good reason to remember you, sergeant."

"And you remember the last words I ever spoke to you in the old years?"

"I have not forgotten them."

"Well," he said, with a palpable burst of feeling, "them words have been haunting me ever since I met you at the hotel in Jefferson. When I was ordered to report to Major Cochrane, I never thought of you. The old affair had almost gone from my mind; but when I saw you go, I knew you, and when you looked up at me, I was troubled. I hoped you might not remember me. If you did not, I meant to hold my tongue. But I couldn't act like myself. Howsaumever, I held up till to-night. But after we'd done supper, I kept watch of your movements, and made up my mind that you were going to look out for me. But, major, don't let it go no further. I'm too old a soldier now to know that the harm I suffered at Snelling was of my own making. I don't bear the old grudge any longer, and I tell you the truth when I tell you that you did me a good turn that time. I know how I was going on, and I know that another officer in your place would have shot me. So, will you take my hand and cry quits of all old memories?"

I never gave my hand to a man more readily, nor more cheerfully; and I doubt if in all the western wilds there was a more social and jolly party than we made on the following day. As an individual, I was particularly happy; for I am free to confess that there were a few moments of that first night in the wilderness freighted with about as much dread and uneasiness as a man would care to experience. But, as I remarked to the sergeant on a former occasion, "All's well that ends well."

And our tramp of four weeks continued so pleasantly, that the end might have been longer deferred without any complaint from us.

Choice Miscellany.

For the Maine Farmer.

The Yield of Crops per Acre.

The late bulletins from the department of agriculture, give the final returns in rate of yield of all our principal crops per acre.

CORN.

We find that the average yield of this crop for the past six years is reported as being below the average, if we except the year 1885. The average yield for the past year we find to be 22 bushels per acre for the entire breadth planted to this crop; and the returns made last July showed that 75,000,000 acres were devoted to this crop; this shows the total yield to be 1,650,000,000 bushels; which shows a reduction of some 4 bushels per acre below the general average. The July reports showed that the crop up to this time was somewhat above the average, but as that month was so unfavorable to its growth by excessive moisture in some localities, and by severe droughts in others, a decline of some fourteen points was made, a shock from which it never fully recovered, although the latter part of the season was generally attended by excellent weather. Maine shows a fine record, averaging 31½ bushels per acre.

WHEAT.

Since the threshing of this crop, we find that there is a slight increase from the first records, and the general average for a series of years will be shown. There can be no doubt that an increase of 100,000,000 bushels has been made over last year's crop. The general averages of some of the principal States are here given: New York, 17 bushels; Ohio, 15.7; Michigan, 16.3; Indiana, 15; Illinois, 13.1; Missouri, 13; Minnesota, 12.6; Iowa, 12.5; Missouri, 12.5; Oregon, 12.5; Wisconsin, 12.3; California, 11.5; Kansas, 11; Dakota, 10.5. Maine makes an average of 15 bushels per acre, very nearly up to the very best of the wheat growing States.

RYE.

Rye seems to be hardier than wheat, consequently it is liable to be injured in unfavorable seasons. The general average standing at nearly 12 bushels per acre. The quality is good, being placed at 96 points.

BARLEY.

This crop has made good returns and the general average is placed at 22.4 bushels per acre. The lowest rate of yield is made in Alabama, at 11.7 bushels per acre, and the highest at 30 bushels, made in Idaho. Maine returns an average of 22½ bushels per acre.

OATS.

The present returns place the general average of this crop at 26.6 bushels per acre for the entire area sown. At this rate of yield the total crop is bushels will reach over 600,000,000 bushels. In the Ohio valley the averages are rather above 30 bushels per acre. In the Eastern States the yields are higher than in the Middle States, so severely that I bore him no more grudge. But he bore a grudge toward me, though. Aye—while his back was bleeding and smarting he hissed into my ears: "If ye've got a God, be sure to Him, Jem. Connover swears that he don't give over this grudge till one of us dies!"

BUCKWHEAT.

We find the largest yields of this grain, per acre, are found in the North Eastern States; and in these States 20 bushels per acre is considered a good crop. Maine and Vermont each produce nearly as much as New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Islands and Connecticut combined. The New York and Pennsylvania produce about two-thirds of the whole product of the United States. This crop is almost unknown in the Southern States, and is not cultivated to any extent. We find the average yield to be 13 bushels per acre, and the whole crop to be more than 11,000,000 bushels.

A. E. FAUGHT,
Chief Statistical Reporter for Kennebec County.

When the Day is Gone.

How quiet the house is at midnight.
The people who talk and laugh and sing
In it every day are asleep, and the people
who fell asleep in Elden ago come silently
back into it. Every house has these two
classes of tenants. Do we love best those
with whom we can talk and laugh and
sing, or the dear silent ones who come so
noiselessly to our side and whisper to us in
faint, sweet far-away whispers that have
no sound, so that we only near their very
stillness.

I am not tired, but my pen is weary. It
falls from my fingers and I drop my head.
I start to leave the table, and my eyes fa.l
upon a little book lying on the floor. It is
a little "First Reader." He left it there
this afternoon. I remember now. I remember just how I was impatient, because
he could not read the simple little lesson—
such an easy lesson—and I told him it was
a waste of my time trying to teach him,
and pushed him away from me. I remember now. I see the flush come into the
little tired face, the brave, cheerful look in
his eyes—his mother's brave, patient cheerfulness—struggling with his disappointment
and pain. I see him lie down on the floor
and the little face bend over the trouble-
some little lesson—such a simple, easy les-
son, and baby might read it. Then, after a
little struggle alone, it has to be given up,
and the baffled little soldier with one more
appealing look toward me for reinforce-
ments, sighs and goes away from the lesson
he cannot read, to the play that comforts
him. And there lies the little book just as
he left it. Ah me, I could kneel down and
kiss it now, as though it were alive and
loving.

Why, what was my time worth to me
to-day? What was there in the book I
wanted to read that was so precious to me
as one cooing word from the prattling lips
that quivered when I turned away? I hate
the book I read. I will never look at it
again. Were it the last book in the world
I think I would burn it. All its gracious
words are lies. I say to you, though all
men praise the book, and though an hour
ago I thought it excellent, I say to you
that there is poison in its hateful pages.
Why, what can I learn from books that
baby lips cannot teach me? Do you know
I want to go to the door of his room and
listen; the house is so still; maybe he is
not breathing. Why, it between my books,
and my boy I chose my books, why should
not God leave me with my books? My
hateful books.

But I was not harsh. I was only a little
impatient. Because, you see, his lesson
was so easy, so simple. Ah, me, there
were two of us trying to read this after-
noon. There were two easy, simple les-
sons. Mine was the very simple, easy,
pleasant, loving one to learn. Just a line,
just a little throb of patience, of gentleness,
of love that would have made my own heart
glow and laugh and sing. The letters were
so large and plain, the words so easy and
the sentences so short. And I? Oh, pity
me, I missed every word. I did not read
one line aright. See, here is my copy now,
all blurred and blistered with tears and
heartache, all misread and misspelled and
blotted. I am ashamed to show it to the
Master. And yet I know He will be pa-
tient with me; I know how loving and
gentle He will be. He will teach patiently
and lovingly all these years He has been
teaching me this simple lessons I failed
upon to-day. But when my little pupil
stumbled on a single word—is my time,
then, so much more precious than the
Master's that I cannot teach the lesson
more than once?

"Ah, friend, we do not waste time when
we plant acorns for ourselves. These
hurrying days, these busy, zealous, shrewd,
ambitious times of ours are wasted when
we take our hearts away from patient gen-
tleness, and give us fame for love and gold
for kisses. Some day, then, when our
hungry souls will ask for bread, our selfish
god will give to us a stone. Life is not a
deep, profound, perplexing dream. It is a
simple, easy lesson, such as any child may
read. We cannot find its solution in the
ponderous tones of the old fathers, the
philosophers, the investigator, the theo-
rists. It is not on your book shelves. But
in the sweet murmur of the most unlet-
tered heart it glows in letters that the
blindest may read; a sweet, plain, simple,
easy, loving lesson. And when you have
learned it, brother of mine, the world will
be better and happier.—*E. J. Burdette.*

An old lady of New Hampshire, who recently celebrated her 80th birthday by giving an elaborate supper at which every article, including the cheese and butter, was made with her own hands, thus explained the secret of her vigor and health: "I never fret over things I cannot help; I take a nap and sometimes two, every day of my life; I never take my work to bed with me; and I fill the many wheels of busy life by an implicit faith that there is a brain and a heart to this great universe, and that I can trust them both."

He was riding with his elder sister and thought he could take some liberties: "Have you any objection to my smoking, Mabel?" he asked. "No," she replied. "If you desire to smoke the coachman will help you to alight."

Horse Department.

Shoeing Horses.

There is no subject connected with horses so poorly understood by the masses as the formation and structure of the foot, and what constitutes proper shoeing. The large majority take their horses to the the blacksmith and leave them to be shod as he may fancy, never asking whether he be skilful in detecting irregularities in shape, or diseases produced by improperly fitted shoes. The hoofs are cut, burned, scraped and filed according to the fancy of the smith without a word of protest, and when the animal goes lame we commence to dose and bathe. A large per cent. of the diseases of the feet and legs are doubtless produced by improper shoeing. No rule can be given to govern in all cases. The structure of the foot, manner of moving, and work given the animal, form but a part of the knowledge necessary in order to shoe correctly. More attention is given to the looks of the job when finished than to the comfort or welfare of the animal. It is impossible to lay down any rules, but it is safe to say that hoofs are cut and filed altogether too much, especially at the heel, and that the fitting of the hot shoe and burning of the hoof should not be allowed. It is also safe to assert that the majority of shoes are made too narrow at the heel and the bearing placed on the outside, thus causing contraction and tenderness. If no instructions are given, then the shoer has but his own judgment to aid him. While personally the work is the servant of the owner of the animal, who should direct the process. Shoes should be selected of the right style, size and shape to relieve or correct any wrong tendencies, and the shaping of the foot and nailing of the shoe should be under the immediate supervision of the owner.

One of the most valuable and fastest trotting stallions in Maine has been helped into condition to make his record by properly fitted shoes. One year ago he would show an unwillingness to speed after going a quarter of a mile, whereas by attention to his feet and shoes, he has been able to cut the seconds from his record in hard fought races. The trouble with this horse was caused by improper shoeing, which, when corrected, brought relief, and soon put the animal in shape for long, hard drives.

Many blacksmiths make a study of each horse brought to them, and thus are able to give valuable advice. This shoeing of a horse becomes a science with trotting stock, and more attention is given the subject than any other. With sound feet, well made, properly balanced shoes, the horse is at his best; change either condition, and we fail. It is important that we appreciate the value of the horse's feet, and aid the blacksmith by timely suggestions, that will enable him to shoe to the best advantage. The injury inflicted by one set of ill-fitting shoes will surely be felt for months, and may produce permanent defects.

The talk being made in some of our visionary exchanges, in relation to a matched race next season between Lawrence and Nelson, may be taken with a good dose of allowance, for probably such a race has never been thought of by the owners. Lawrence is a prince, four years old, large, well built, strongly coupled, with natural trotting action, and got his record of 2.32 easily, but between that and the phenominal three-year-old record of Nelson, 2.25¾, there is quite a margin. Those who saw Nelson at the State Fair this year, and noticed, as thousands did, his magnificant action on the stretches, know that the horse has improved since he made his record last year, and that another year, with training, he will probably enter the twenty class. These two colts, one by Dr. Franklin and the other by Young Rolfe, are the pride of their owners and the admiration of thousands, and well they may be, for they are the cream of the State. Other sons of Dr. Franklin are coming along very fast, and another year will find them following close upon the heels of Lawrence, while Aubine and other colts by Young Rolfe, are proving their trotting qualities. These two families will doubtless fight some of the hard battles during the next campaign.

A few minutes spent at Fearnaught Farm, Manchester, satisfied us that Mr. E. L. Norcoss has a class of colts growing that will bring princely sums in the market, if no accident befalls them. As we approached, the hired man was driving in a yearling at a pace that would make any one not well acquainted with the speed of our colts, open their eyes in wonder. The finely formed animal sped along at a "right smart gait" and seemed as well under control as the majority of mature horses. St. Valentine, the pet, we fancy, of Mr. Norcross, has grown finely since the exhibitions in September, and is a rich looking, large, well formed colt, the exact counterpart of the old horse. Mollie Fearnaught, out of Mollie Allen, is the yearling selected by Mr. Norcross to represent this stock in the *Spirit of the Times* Futurity Stakes, which it is expected will amount to over $20,000. Fearnaught, Jr. is at Bangor, where he will remain, his services being in great demand, in that wide-awake portion of the State.

A correspondent asks about the never-slip shoe for horses. The breeding journals are full of praise for these shoes, from correspondents all over the country, and, though we have never used them, they seem to have points of merit worthy our attention.

Poultry Department.

Laying Pullets.

In August, if I remember rightly, a China or Albion man, I do not remember names, reported his Plymouth Rock pullets, then four months old, as laying. Now, as we have several fine looking Plymouth Rock pullets 6½ months old, weighing five pounds or more, which have never laid an egg, and I think them lazy or perhaps fat and lazy. But I attribute it in part, at least, to their keeping until they commenced laying? Of what breed are they? What was their feed and your success in rearing them, and what their feed now as layers? The value of early layers may be estimated a little by the following: After the middle of August eggs can be safely kept until Thanksgiving or Christmas when they will bring two cents each. Pack them as fast as they are laid in large or small boxes according to size of your flock, either using apartments for each egg, or pack in dry straw or sawdust. Screw on the cover, place the box in a dry, cool place, turning it top for bottom once a week. Now, suppose our reporter who had pullets laying more than two months ago, has obtained from each, say, 50 eggs, and has saved them as above, he has in value $1.00 for each pullet (100 eggs), which will just about pay the cost, perhaps some more, of raising so early chickens, and their feed to present time; and has good winter layers now on his hands all paid for by themselves. Wake up your chicks, set them cackling and see which of you will tell us the best story. G. TABER.

The English Egg Trade.

"Lessons in an Eggshell" is the title of a brief, but to the English farmer extremely interesting, account of the egg trade. The statistics of the imports of eggs of England tell their own significant story. During the summer months fifty to eighty tons of eggs are landed every twenty-four hours on the quays of Harwich. These come almost exclusively from North Italy, by way of the St. Gothard Tunnel. The daily cargoes occasionally amount to as much as 130 tons, representing about two millions of eggs, of which London is almost the sole destination. Besides these, fifty to sixty millions of eggs are sent into England every month from Denmark, Germany, Belgium, and France. The last country does a thriving export trade after supplying the egg-loving Parisians with the forty million dozen which is their annual consumption. It may be instructive to note some of the points on our coast at which this foreign produce is discharged. Weymouth receives from three to four millions of eggs per month; Newhaven and Southampton over eight millions each; London (port of), five millions; Hartlepool, eight millions; Grimsby and Newcastle, five millions each; Leith, two million. The duty on imported eggs was repealed in the year 1860. The subjoined figures, taken from a new American work on "Poultry Culture," will open the eyes of many. In all America the annual production of eggs was valued in 1878 at no less than £36,000,000, and of poultry sold at £14,000,000, this giving us a total of £50,000,000, a year. But it is shown that if each person in the United States did but eat an egg per day—which from the numbers used in cooking might be taken as a fair average—this would amount to an aggregate of over £70,000,000 per annum for eggs alone. The value of poultry consumed has gone up now to £24,300,000. The value of stock carried over each year is placed at £9,000,000 and the sale of fancy fowls and eggs at $100,000. This gives a total of something like £109,000,000 as the animal value of the poultry production of America in a year. This sum is no less than £6,000,000 more than the value of an entire year's maize crop, and of £37,000,000 more than the value of a year's wheat crop. France is quoted also of making no less than £40,000,000 annually by her poultry.

Young Folks' Column.

Baby Allie.

I have a baby cousin,
His name is Allie C.,
He's always into mischief,
And as busy as can be.

He breaks all the tea cups,
And climbs up the stair;
Upsets Lulie's playthings,
And pulls sister Hattie's hair.

He hugs up his kitty,
As he sits in his chair,
And with his fat, dimpled hands
He pulls out her hair.

Ever giving trouble,
Ever giving joy,
He is mamma's pretty darling,
And papa's baby boy.

West Deer Isle. LUCY.

Please find below my solution to arithmetical puzzle that appeared in your paper, date of Dec. 9, and give us another one:

There were three boys. The first two had 30 apples each, or 60 apples. The third also had 60 apples. The whole number of apples in each case was 60. In the first case one boy sold his apples, which were 30 (or one half the whole number in each case) at the rate of two for one cent. Therefore he received 15 cents. The other boy sold his apples, which were also 30, (or one half the whole number in each case) at the rate of three for one cent. Therefore he received ten cents. Both received 25 cents. That is—*one-half* the apples were sold at the rate of two for one cent, and the *other half* were sold at the rate of three for one cent. Let the third boy sell *one-half* at the rate of two for one cent, and the *other half* at the rate of three for one cent? Now if we consider two apples sold for one cent, and three apples sold for one cent, (as we did in the first case) then, every time he made a sale of five apples, two, or two-fifths of them were sold at the rate of two for one cent, and three or three-fifths of them were sold at the rate of three for one cent. Two-fifths of 60 equal 24, which, sold at the rate of two for one cent, would bring 12 cents, and three-fifths of 60 equal 36, which, sold at the rate of three for 1 cent would bring 12 cents. Therefore, in the second case 24 cents was received. That is —in the first case *one-half* were sold at the rate of two for one cent, and the other half at the rate of three for one cent. In the second case two-fifths were sold at the rate of two for one cent, and three-fifths were sold at the rate of three for one cent, and of course the amount received in the different cases would differ in proportion to the number sold.

J. L. CLARK.
Bangor.

Annie's Party.

"Did you hear what a queer Thanksgiving party Annie Burns had this year? No? Well, I will tell you about it: Thanksgiving day was also Annie's birthday, and she always had a birthday party. This year she got a new idea into her bright, curly head. Instead of asking her playmates to her feast, she asked lame Tommy, the shoemaker's daughter, and a dozen like them, who hardly ever knew anything to be thankful for. Then she begged papa to give her the money he was intending to spend for Annie's dinner for twenty years, and we like it very much. I will close by sending a riddle: Round as an apple, yellow as gold; more things in it than you are years old.

HATTIE G. MILLS.
Mercer.

I am a boy 14 years old. I live in Boston, Mass., but I am living now in Belden Green in Fairfield. I came from a place in Massachusetts called Pine Farm. I am not going to school this winter, but I learn just as well at home. C. W. Green is my teacher. I study geography, history, reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic. We have a dog named Neptune; we have cats, but I don't think a cat is much of a pet, but a dog is the pet of the whole family. Mr. Green has 16 head of cattle, 3 horses, 1 colt, and 37 sheep. I like to read the young folks' column very much. I will close by sending a riddle: Who was the first whistler, and what time did he whistle? If any boy or girl cannot answer this, I will tell them the answer the next time I write.

CLARENCE RUSSELL.
Fairfield.

Mrs. Edward Jones, wife of Supt. Jones of the South Boston Gaslight Company, has a cat that shows a marked preference for music. The young people of the family frequently play a duet together, and on such occasions puss invariably accommodates herself in the parlor. About three weeks ago, a no'se like that of bird notes issued from the library, and in search of food to proceed from a young kitten. This kitten, offspring of this music-loving cat, cradled among books, gives promise of unusual intelligence, and a fondness for the "meaw," "meaw," heard from ordinary felines, makes a sound resembling a young robin.

I have been going to school this winter, but am now sick with a cold, and have not been for two weeks; my father is teacher. I have got an organ and can play quite well. My sister has got a canary bird that sings in the evening, and in the morning before light. My bird does not sing now, he is shedding his feathers. One of our neighbors has a little pug dog; his name is Bobbie and he is real cunning, he comes over and plays with me quite often and we have nice times. Will close with a merry Christmas to all the boys and girls. H. A. BROWN.
West Camden.

I am a little girl 10 years old, and my papa takes the *Maine Farmer*; we all like it very much. We live on a farm. I have got two brothers older than I am, and one sister younger. We have got 28 head of cattle, 50 sheep, 3 horses and 2 cows. will close by sending the answer to Hattie Mabel Young's enigmas: No. 1, Maine Farmer; No. 2, school.

Stetson. BELLE H. RANDLETT.

Last summer, a little 3-year-old, playing in the yard, came into the house and said to his mother: "Mother, I saw nothing with a tail to it." His mother, being unable to understand him, followed the child into the yard, where the little fellow pointed to a snake which was gliding away through the grass.—*St. Paul Pioneer-Press.*

This is my first attempt to write for the young folks' column. I am 8 years old. I have one little sister 2 years old, her name is Ethel. My school closed two weeks ago. My teacher's name is Augusta H. Edgecomb, and I liked her very much. I can knit and wash dishes; I am knitting a stocking. LOTTIE MAY COLBY.
Litchfield.

Yours for Health

20 Years Record. LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND, Is a Positive Cure For ALL of those Painful Delicate Complaints and Complicated troubles and Weaknesses so common among our Wives, Mothers, and Daughters.

IT PERMEATES TO THE VERY BOTTOM OF THE SYSTEM, GIVING NEW LIFE AND VIGOR. IT REMOVES FAINTNESS, FLATULENCY, DESTROYS ALL CRAVING FOR STIMULANTS, AND RELIEVES WEAKNESS OF THE STOMACH. IT CURES BLOATING, HEADACHES, NERVOUS PROSTRATION, GENERAL DEBILITY, SLEEPLESSNESS, DEPRESSION AND INDIGESTION. THAT FEELING OF BEARING DOWN, CAUSING PAIN, WEIGHT AND BACKACHE, IS PERMANENTLY CURED BY IT. IT WILL AT ALL TIMES AND UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES ACT IN HARMONY WITH THE LAWS THAT GOVERN THE FEMALE SYSTEM. FOR THE CURE OF KIDNEY COMPLAINTS OF EITHER SEX, THE COMPOUND (IN PILL OR LOZENGE FORM, IS FOR $1.) EITHER OF THE LATTER SENT BY MAIL, ON RECEIPT OF PRICE. MRS. PINKHAM'S "GUIDE TO HEALTH" AND CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR MAILED TO ANY LADY DESIRING ADDRESS AND STAMP TO LYNN, MASS. *Mention this Paper.*

Lydia E. Pinkham

A SAD STORY.

A Woman Tortured Nine Years from the Incompetency of Physicians. Relief at last.

Mrs. T., a lady residing in a country town in Indiana, tells the following painful story: "I had taken treatment from physicians for about nine years and had never received any permanent relief until I took your Compound. I thought I never should get well and cried a good deal of my time. A year ago this summer I was confined to my bed and room for five months, under the doctor's care. I at last made up my mind to quit him and try your Compound and with what a joyful result! Oh! I feel so glad that I tried it and am sorry that I did not get hold of it nine years ago." The foregoing is from a letter to Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, and sufferers by taking her Vegetable Compound may escape the writer's regret for years wasted in hopeless agony.

A Letter of Thanks.

M